





**THE COMANCHE NATION NEWS**  
᠋ᠠᠷᠠᠪᠠᠨᠢᠬᠤᠮᠠ  
(Thanksgiving Month)  
November 2021

The award-winning *Comanche Nation News*, the official communication of the Comanche Nation, is available at no charge upon request. The deadline to submit information for the December 2021 edition is 5 p.m., November 12, 2021.

Contact:  
The Comanche Nation News  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, Okla. 73502-0908  
Telephone: (580) 492-3381  
Fax: (580) 492-3709  
Email: [pio@comanchenation.com](mailto:pio@comanchenation.com)

- PIO/TCNN Staff**
- Jolene Schonchin, Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: [Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com](mailto:Jolene.Schonchin@comanchenation.com) -Telephone Number-(580)492-3382
  - Paula Karty, Assist. Editor, Reporter, Photographer- Email: [Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com](mailto:Paula.Karty@comanchenation.com) -Telephone Number-(580)492-3383
  - Hannah Tehauno Reporter/Photographer- Email: [Hannah.Tehauno@comanchenation.com](mailto:Hannah.Tehauno@comanchenation.com) -Telephone (580) 492-3621
  - Stacey Heminokeky, Administrative Assistant- Email: [Stacey.Heminokeky@comanchenation.com](mailto:Stacey.Heminokeky@comanchenation.com) Telephone Number (580) 492-3385
  - News items** of interest to the local and American Indian community are welcome.
  - Photographs** will be copied and will become the property of *TCNN*. To return original photographs, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Do not send faxed photographs or newspaper copies of photographs.
  - The Milestones Page** (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Engagements, Memorial Pictures, Weddings, Births) are by submission only. The Passings/Obituaries are submitted by the Comanche Nation Funeral Home or by tribal members on a funeral home letterhead. The Milestones Page is for tribal members only. *TCNN* publishes all services conducted by The Comanche Nation Funeral Home without discretion. Obituaries are written for tribal members only.
  - TCNN* will print a Comanche organization's annual event flyer once free of charge as a courtesy to our tribal organizations. The guidelines for flyer submission are: Pow-wow flyers have to be from an established Comanche organization. There has to be contact person and number on the organization's annual flyer.
  - We reserve the right to edit all material.** Letters or articles that contain libelous information, slander, or personal attacks will not be printed. Letters to the Editor must be signed with a legible name, and have a 1,500 word limit. The letters to the editor or articles contained in *The Comanche Nation News* does not reflect the views or opinions of

**Comanche Nation Officials**

- Chairman**  
Mark Woommavovah
- Vice Chairman**  
Dr. Cornel Pewewardy
- Secretary/Treasurer**  
John David Wahnee
- Committeeman No. 1**  
June Sovo
- Committeeman No. 2**  
Diana Doyebi
- Committeeman No. 3**  
Alice Kassanavoid
- Committeeman No. 4**  
Robert Komahchee
- Tribal Administrator**  
Julia Mantzke

**To contact officials:**  
Comanche Nation  
P.O. Box 908  
Lawton, Okla. 73502  
Toll Free: (877) 492-4988

**Physical Address**  
584 Bingo Rd.



Member of the Native American Journalist Association since 2001



Member of the Society of Professional Journalists since 2010

Follow The Comanche Nation News



The Comanche Nation News



TCNNPIO



[comanchenationpio](https://www.comanchenationpio.com)

# Government

## Seven Resolutions on the Comanche Business Committee October Meeting Agenda

Story by Hannah Tehauno/News Staff

**Editors Note:** This is an overview of the October 2, Comanche Business Committee Monthly Meeting, and not the official minutes. To obtain a copy of the official minutes, please contact the Office of the Chairman, (580)492-3251.

Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Secretary-Treasurer, John D. Wahnee, conducted Roll Call. A quorum was established with all Comanche Business Committee (CBC) members present.

Committeeman No. 2, Diana Gail Sovo-Doyebi, began the meeting with the Invocation.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September, CBC meeting by Committeeman No. 3, Alice Kassanavoid. The motion carried 6/0/1.

Kassanavoid, motioned to approve the special minute meetings. Committeeman No. 1, June Sovo, seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

**Resolutions**

**List No. 126-2021: Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA) Block Grant Resolution.**

Sovo-Doyebi, made the motion to approve. Kassanavoid, seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

**List No. 127-2021: Transit Ecolane Resolution.**

Wahnee, motioned to approve. Sovo, seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

**List No. 128-2021: Comanche Nation Police Department (CNPD) Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) Resolution.**

Sovo, motions to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

**List No. 129-2021: Workforce CNG (Comanche Nation Guidelines) Guidelines Resolution.**

Committeeman No. 4, Robert Komahchee Jr., makes the motion to strike out 2 year wait for assistance from Workforce if a Workforce employee is terminated on the job. Wahnee, seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1. Wahnee, made the motion shortly after to approve the resolution. Sovo, seconded the motion. The resolution carries 6/0/1.

**List No. 130-2021: Elder Payment Recipient Resolution.**

Sovo-Doyebi, motions to approve. Kassanavoid, seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

**List No. 131-2021: Tax Act Amendment Resolution.**

Sovo, made the motion to approve. Sovo-Doyebi, seconded the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

**List No. 132-2021: National Congress of the American Indians (NCAI) Membership Resolution.**

Sovo, motioned to approve. Komahchee Jr., seconds the motion. The motion carries 6/0/1.

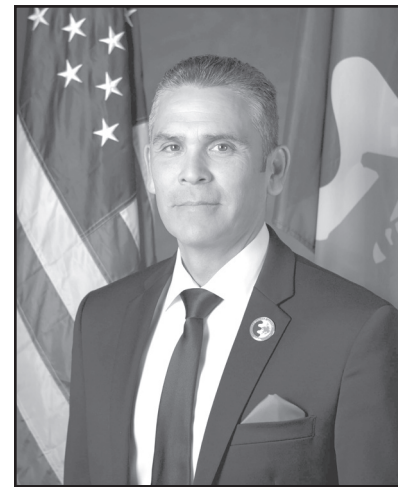
The meeting was adjourned and went into Executive Session at 11 a.m.

The meeting came back into place out of Executive Session at 1:50 p.m.

Sovo, motioned to adjourn. Kassanavoid, seconded the motion. The motion carried 6/0/1.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

*From the Chairman's Desk*



As human beings, we seem to believe that life is supposed to be easy. This is particularly a problem in America today. We expect a smooth and easy road to success. We expect our lives to be hassle-free. We expect the government to solve our problems. We expect to get a prize without having to pay the price. That is not reality! Life is hard.

Once we accept that fact that life is hard, we begin to grow. We begin to understand that every problem is also an opportunity. It is then that we dig down and discover what we're made of. We begin to accept the challenges of life. Instead of letting our hardships defeat us, we welcome them as a test of character. We used them as a means of rising to the occasion.

This reality is especially important for leaders to recognize and embrace. Nothing worth having in life comes without effort. If we don't understand and accept the truth that life is difficult, that leadership is difficult, then we set ourselves up for failure and we won't learn or succeed.

As leaders, even if we are willing to concede that life is difficult for most people, deep down inside many of us secretly hope somehow that his truth won't apply to us. But no one escapes life's problems, failures, and challenges. If we are to make progress, we must do so through life's difficulties. Or as poet Ralph Waldo Emerson stated it, "The walking of Man is falling forwards."

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years....Comanche Strong Stronger Together!

## ENTERPRISES

Continued from Page 1

Tahdoohnippah had questions about the company, "How does Comanche Nation Construction benefit the Comanche Nation?" And he, along with many other Comanche tribal members, saw money going into the company, but none being returned to the tribe. Everyone was frustrated by the lack of transparency.

The questions brought attention to CNC and its financial situation revealing that Comanche Nation Construction had accumulated \$1.6 million in past due debt. It was discovered that Comanche Nation Construction had well over 50 contracts with the federal government ranging from \$10,000 to over \$9 million dollars nationwide but due to mismanagement lost its construction bonding and was default on a federal contract.

This is when everything changed for both CNE and CNC. The existing CNE board resigned, and the CBC stepped in as the Interim CNE Board of Directors. Tahdoohnippah took the reins at Comanche Nation Construction in September 2019 on a mission to save the company. "Talk about being thrown into the fire. I found out quick, Comanche Nation Construction's 'ship' was sinking and sinking fast. I knew I had to pull this out of the water and regain control," Tahdoohnippah said. "It was disturbing to think all these years, we were told that our companies were making money... We have equity... We have millions in assets... When the truth of the matter was, we were in financial turmoil," he added.

Quickly changes were made, and CNC did a 180 degree turn around in 12 months -- from the \$1.6 million in debt to \$1.6 million in the black. This young Comanche entrepreneur changed everything -- from the old CNC employing only 3% Comanche Tribal members to now with 67% of its employees enrolled Comanche tribal members.

Tahdoohnippah said, "Today, CNC is a 100% Comanche Tribal Member run business." The transformation included implementing 100% financial transparency with monthly CNE Board of Directors/CBC meetings, enforcement of stringent financial management, accounting protocols (including annual audits) and cost control measures, eliminating unnecessary debts and liabilities, and working diligently to close outstanding contracts. CNC is no longer in debt and is back on track to deliver positive financial results. Once again it is a business that can proudly wear the Comanche Nation name.

Once the new CBC was elected earlier this year and, in a position to act, Mr. John David Wahnee, CBC Secretary Treasurer, along with the support of the other CBC members (the acting as the interim CNE board), gave Tahdoohnippah the authority to hire an audit firm and get CNC back on track to generate revenue for the Tribe. "This is all work in progress -- but at least now we're moving forward in the right direction for the Comanche Nation," said Tahdoohnippah. He added, "I know the history of CNE, and CNC has not been good for my people -- but we have never been in the driver's seat before. Now it is our turn. We've set higher expectations so our people can prosper. The goal is simple for Comanche Nation Enterprises, Inc. and its entities: maximize profit, employ our people, and return proceeds back to the tribe," said Tahdoohnippah.

Learn more about Comanche Nation Enterprises at [www.comanchenationenterprises.com](http://www.comanchenationenterprises.com), Comanche Nation Construction at [www.comanchenationconstruction.com](http://www.comanchenationconstruction.com), Numunu Staffing at [www.numunustaffing.com](http://www.numunustaffing.com) and follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn.

**Carbon Monoxide THE SILENT KILLER**

For more information please contact the Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs at (580) 492-3754.

**WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE?**  
Carbon monoxide, or CO, is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that is produced by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal, or other fuel.

**WAYS CO IS PRODUCED INDOORS**  
CO can be produced a lot of different ways to include; poorly ventilated chimneys, leaky joints or pipes from gas appliances, using the gas oven for heating.

**PREVENTATIVE STEPS**  
One of the best ways to combat CO is to have a CO detector installed in your home. Some other steps include; Making sure your gas appliances are vented properly, never use a gas stove to help heat your home, don't burn charcoal indoors, don't use generators indoors, and if you have a chimney to make sure it's cleaned yearly.

Comanche Nation Tribal Court District Court  
SEP 14 2021  
FILED  
Court Clerk: [Signature]

IN THE COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF: )  
KATLYN SUELLA GEMBACZ ) Case No.: NC-2021-0002  
An enrolled member of the Comanche Nation )

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**  
TO: ALL CREDITORS or INTERESTED PARTIES

Take notice that Katlyn Suella Gembacz has filed in the above Court a Petition to have the name changed as follows, to-wit from: Katlyn Suella Gembacz to Caleb Bryce Gembacz.

The petition will be heard on 10/20/2021 at 11:00 AM located at the Comanche Nation Courthouse, 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton, Oklahoma.

If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned Petition for Change of Name should not be granted by the Court you should file with the court a written protest in the case prior to the date set for hearing or appear and present the same at the above time and place.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 14th day of September, 2021.

By: [Signature]  
Court Clerk/Deputy  
Comanche Nation Tribal Court  
584 NW Bingo Dr.  
P.O. Box 646  
Lawton, OK 73502  
Ph: (580) 280-4744



# Programs

## Child Support Services Announce Court Dates

The Comanche Nation Child Support Program (CNCSP) is requesting notice of publication in the November 2021 edition of the Comanche Nation Newspaper for:

### In the Comanche Nation Tribal Court

- Corey Cable: CNCSP-15-42; Motion to Determine Support Arrears and Reduce to Judgment
- Malie Cooper: CNCSP-19-41; Application for Indirect Contempt
- Antoinette Barrera-Hernasy: CNCSP-21-34; Petition for Establishment of Child Support
- Derrek Koppady: CNCSP-21-33; Petition for Establishment of Child Support
- Brenda Narcomey: CNCSP-21-31; Petition to Register Order Under Full Faith Credit and Motion for Income Assignment Order on Per Capita
- Mary Palmer: CNCSP-21-42; Petition to Accept Transfer of Jurisdiction
- Brooke Paz: CNCSP-21-07; Application for Indirect Contempt
- David R. Velasquez: CNCSP-15-19; Petition to Register Foreign Order
- Christopher Vasquez: CNCSP-31-26; Petition for Determination of Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
- William M. Wauqua: CNCSP-21-29; Motion to Modify Child Support

Under Title 3 of the Comanche Nation Child Support Codes Rule 4 (E) (3) allows for service by publication in instances where the location of the subject of service is unknown, or when the subject of service has been unable to be served by traditional means. The CNCSP is needing the above name(s) to be placed in our upcoming Comanche Nation Newspaper.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that due to present public health concerns ALL CNCSP HEARINGS will be conducted telephonically until further notice. CNCSP will call parties between the hours of 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. on set court date. All parties are responsible for updating current information with CNCSP.

If you are unavailable for telephonic hearing due to telephone restrictions and/or need to update info, call the Comanche Nation Child Support Program PRIOR to set court date, (580) 280-4641.

## Workforce Receives Award

On October 19, the Comanche Nation Workforce Department received a Team Award on behalf of the Comanche Nation from the United States Department of Labor - Division of Indian and Native American Programs (DINAP). The team award was presented to Rodney Parker and the Workforce Staff at the 2021, 41st National Indian and Native American Employment/Public Law 102-477 Training Conference in Warwick, Rhode Island. Of all the Native American grantees within the WIOA (Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act) programs nationally, the Comanche Nation was the first grantee of five others to utilize a new federal software program called the Grants Performance Management System (GPMS), which is now being utilized nationally by other Native American grantees.

The Comanche Nation and Comanche Nation Workforce were recognized for their teamwork with DINAP personnel and the first to test run this new software. This is another huge accomplishment for Comanche Nation Workforce as this marks the second nationally recognized award from the United States Department of Labor and DINAP. The first nationally recognized award was presented in 2017 to the department for 'Outstanding Grantee' out of a total of 176 Native American grantees. Congratulations to Rodney and the Comanche Nation Workforce Staff!

## Bonita Paddyaker Retires on November 4, after 30 Years of Service to the Nation



Courtesy Photos

### Paddyaker

After working for the Comanche Nation for 30 years, Bonita Paddyaker, Director for the tribe's Injury Prevention Program, is retiring.

"I want to thank all the Maintenance staff (My kids) for always being there to assist the program. I thank the Comanche Nation Law Enforcement for always being there to assist me with the events and help me get my keys out of my car, many times. I thank Yonevia Sapcutt for always being there to assist me with the elders, when needed. I thank you, your staff and all the other programs for always being available to assist the program when needed," expressed Paddyaker, in her retirement announcement.

She was hired June 6, 1991, for the position of License Practical Nurse/CHR. In 1992, her title changed to CHR/EMS, and she worked with (the late) Donald Tosee Sr. In 2001, her position changed to the Injury Prevention Coordinator. In 2006, the Injury Prevention became a tribal program and she was hired as the director. In 2012, the Angels was started by (the late) Keith Yackeyony, and they were added to the Injury Prevention Program.

"I have been blessed with employment for 30 years and four months with the Comanche Nation, and I am proud to have served my Comanche people," said Paddyaker.

When she accepted the job, she was going to stay for three months, until the CHR Director found another License Practical Nurse to fill the position. She had planned to return to her job in Private Duty nursing. After three months of caring for Comanche tribal elders and families, she said she decided to stay.

"I do not have any regrets, because I gained so much knowledge from our elders and tribal families. They taught me the culture, respect, honor, trust, integrity and most of all Love. The knowledge I received from our elders is priceless, and a blessing," she added.

She said she has seen injuries, sickness and so many deaths within families and tribal members. She has learned how to pray and cry with tribal members and not be ashamed. She said I wanted to assist the tribal members from the infants to the oldest elder, where ever she was able and needed.

"I worked for six Chairmen and many Tribal Administrators, and Comanche Business Committee

members," said Paddyaker. "I thank the Comanche Nation for allowing me to be a CHR, EMS, Nurse, Emergency Management Safety officer, and the Injury Prevention/ Angels Director for 30 years. Working for the tribe has taught me so much and gave me the chance to give back to our tribal members as much as I was able."

In 2006, she took the one-year Indian Health Service (IHS) training to become an Injury Prevention Specialist. In 2007, she received the HIS Merit Award for completing the training.

In 2012, she was given the honor to start the Angels Program, to provide house cleaning for the elders, handicapped and the terminally ill. Working with the children, from infant to eight-year-olds, she helped by providing car seats to help keep the tribe's 'Precious Cargo' safe.

"For 27 years I have been known and called the 'Car Seat Lady,' and such an honor. This is a program that is much needed, because the families cannot always afford a car seat and some have multiple children. My goal as a National Child Passenger Safety Technician, is to provide child restraints to every tribal child from infant to eight years of age. To teach the parents to "Buckle Up" their children and keep our Heritage safe. We have provided thousands of car seats to tribal families," said Paddyaker.

In 2017, she received the Martha Collar Child Safety Award for Excellence, for child passenger safety.

Paddyaker also supervised an annual Pre-Prom Mock Car Crash in the spring to make students aware of the dangers of not only drinking and driving, but texting and driving. Over the years, hundreds of students have watched the simulation, and many tribal employees and programs, as well as local and state law enforcement and other first responders, helped Paddyaker with the event.

Other events Paddyaker coordinated include a bike ride for eight years and the funds went to a Comanche member with a terminal illness to assist with medical care, the Elders Safety Fair, Senior Olympics, and the Senior Prom, that the elders enjoyed.

Paddyaker is a positive reflection of the Comanche Nation, and all of the employees and Administration wish Paddyaker all the best as she begins her retirement.

### Comanche Nation Offices will be closed:



**November 11 - Veteran's Day  
Offices will reopen for normal  
business November 12**

**November 25-26 - Thanksgiving  
Offices will re-open for normal  
business November 29**



## Elder Council's September Drive-Thru Event Proved Successful; Announces Upcoming Events



Courtesy Photos

**ABOVE: Members of the Elder's Council volunteer at the December 7, 2020 Drive Through Events in Lawton, Okla.**

**RIGHT: Rita Heath sets up her jewelry display at the June 2021 Arts and Craft Sale, held at the Elder Council's Office in Lawton, Okla.**



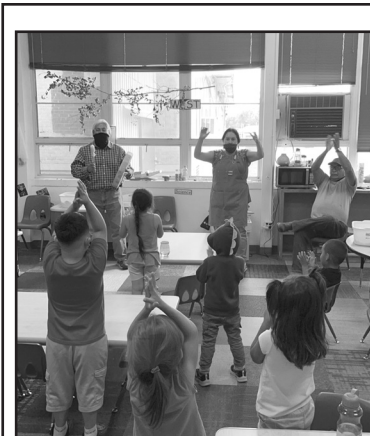
On September 25, the Comanche Nation Elder Council held a DRIVE BY EVENT, at the Comanche Nation Elder Office located at 1001 "C" Avenue, Lawton, Okla. At the DRIVE BY EVENT, 213 VISA gift cards were given to Comanche Elders and to the first 100 elders, a box lunch. The Elder Council had planned to man a booth and give \$100 cash out at the Comanche Nation Fair to all Comanche Elders.

Because the Fair was cancelled, the Elder Council had to devise another way to give to the Comanche Elders. The only feasible way was to hold another DRIVE BY EVENT. Another alternative mentioned was to mail out the cards to all Comanche Elders; however, taking into consideration postage and the number of elders, in excel of 1,700, that would leave less than \$20 dollars per elder. The DRIVE BY EVENT was held from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. when there were no more elders driving by or coming into the offices. We are sorry for anyone we missed; however, the DRIVE BY EVENT was for one day only, and we were advised by the Comanche Nation we had to take down names and ID card numbers since we had to account for the VISA cards. The DRIVE BY EVENT was a great success, even though we had complaints as usual, we still are committed to serving our Comanche Nation Elders.

Arts and Crafts Show and Sale, October 22 - 23, was held at the Comanche Nation Elder Council Office, 1001 "C" Street, Lawton, Okla. Cash only, masks required.

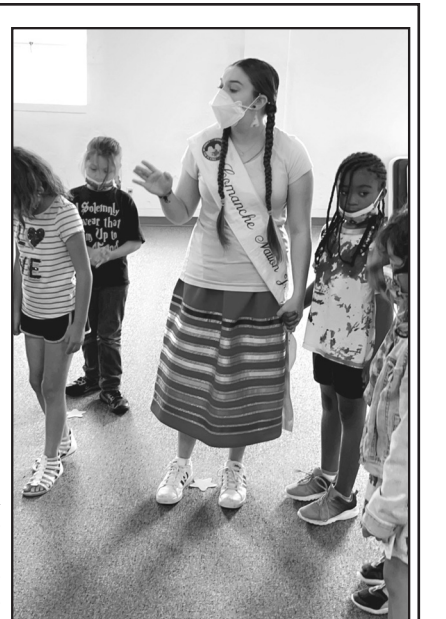
### Upcoming Events

Elder Council Annual Meeting November 1, held at the Apache Casino and Hotel Ball Room, starting at 10 a.m. until 12-noon. Elections will be held for all four Executive Committee Positions. Chairman for the remaining one-year term; Secretary for the remaining one-year term; Vice Chairman for a two-year term; Treasurer for a two-year term. A sit-down meal will be served, and door prizes will be given out. All Comanche Elders age 62 and older are eligible to run for office.



**CULTURAL DAY AT CHARTER SCHOOL.** On October 1, The Comanche Academy held a Cultural day for the students. The day consisted of story telling with Building Supervisor, Nolan Tahdoahnippah, singing with Vice Chairman, Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, snack time, and learning some Pow-wow dances with The Comanche Nation Princess, Angelina Steinmeyer. ABOVE, Pewewardy sings to the beat of the drum, while the kids as well staff, stand and sing while they count to four, using the Comanche Language.

ABOVE RIGHT, Steinmeyer explains some traditional dances such as round dance, snake dance and buffalo dance. BELOW RIGHT, Tahdoahnippah high fives the students on the way out of the classroom to attend snack time.



Photos by Hannah Tehauno/News Staff



## The Anadarko Outreach's new phone numbers are:

Main (405) 648-3801  
Charles Wells - Director (405) 648-3802  
Front Desk (405) 648-3807  
Transit Outreach (405) 648-3809

# Culinary Corner/ Fun Page

Directions. Color Me.



NOVEMBER 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Frederick 1st Day	2 Frederick 2nd Day	3 Walters 1st Day	4 Walters 2nd Day	5 Cache 1st Day	6
7	8 Cache 2nd Day	9 Cache 3rd Day	10 Cache 4th Day	11 CLOSED Veterans Day	12 TRUCK DAY	13
14	15 Lawton 1st Day	16 Lawton 2nd Day	17 Lawton 3rd Day	18 Lawton 4th Day	19 Lawton 5th Day	20
21	22 Make-Up Day	23 Make-Up Day	24 Inventory	25 CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving	26 CLOSED	27
28	29	30 Inventory				



## Recipes For Home Cooking

### Three Sisters Stew

#### Ingredients

- 1 pound trimmed pork loin, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- Kosher salt, as needed
- Black pepper, as needed
- 2 tablespoons neutral oil, such as canola
- 1 large yellow onion, diced
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 cups turkey or chicken stock, preferably home-made or low-sodium
- 1 medium yellow squash, diced
- 1 (15-ounce) can pinto beans, drained
- 1 (15-ounce) can black beans, drained
- 1 (14 1/2-ounce) can chopped tomatoes
- 2 cups fresh or frozen corn kernels
- 1 (4-ounce) can roasted green chiles (1/2 cup)
- 1/2 Bunch fresh cilantro, roughly chopped

#### Directions

1. Season pork with cumin, salt and pepper. Heat oil in a Dutch oven or large heavy-bottomed saucepan over medium-high heat until it shimmers. Add pork, in batches if necessary, and cook, turning as needed, until lightly browned on all sides, 5 to 6 minutes. Transfer pork to a bowl and set aside.
2. Add onion to pan and sauté, stirring occasionally, until translucent, 5 to 7 minutes. Add garlic and sauté, stirring occasionally, until lightly colored, 2 to 3 minutes. Return pork to pan, along with stock and squash, and bring

to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer, covered, for about 30 minutes.

3. Add beans, tomatoes, corn and chiles and cook, uncovered, over medium heat until stew has thickened, about 40 minutes. Add cilantro and season to taste with salt and pepper.

### Slow-Cooked Green Beans with Salt Pork

#### Ingredients

- 4 oz. sliced salt pork
- 1 pound green beans, trimmed
- Freshly ground black pepper

#### Directions

1. Place salt pork and green beans in a large saucepan and add water to cover.
2. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat, and let simmer.
3. Add more water as needed to keep covered, until green beans are very tender, 1 1/2-2 hours;
4. Season with pepper and serve.



Answer Key For the "Match the Comanche Word" that was published in the October Edition of TCNN.

### Halloween Fun

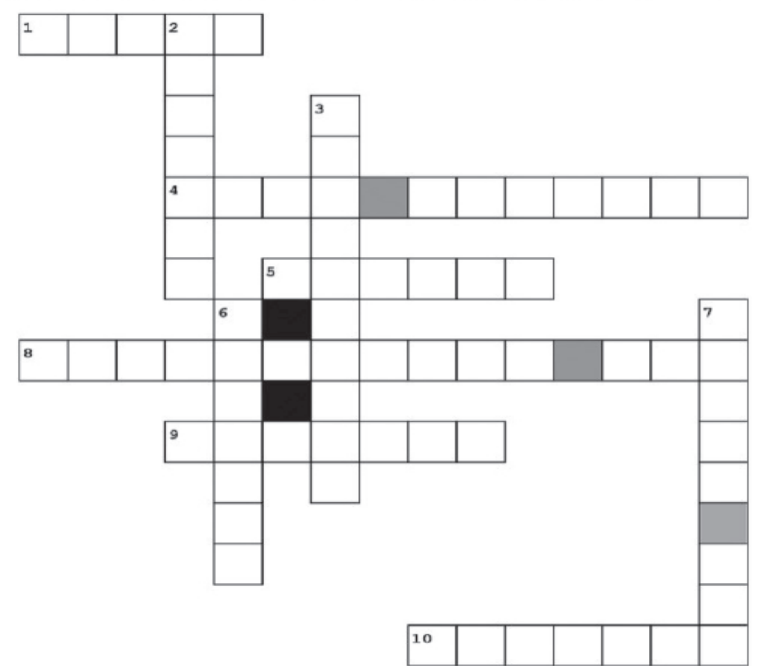
Match the Comanche Word to the English Translation.

- |               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| Mukwite       | Mask      |
| Nakwesi       | Broom     |
| Hiyoo?itu     | Fun       |
| Tu-wa?oo      | Candy     |
| Puetuyai      | Black Cat |
| Tenua         | Pumpkin   |
| kobe tsa?nika | Ghost     |



## Comanche - Words of November

Remember: There may be more than one way to spell or say something.



- Down**
2. turkey
  3. Thanksgiving Day
  6. sweet potato
  7. go visiting

- Across**
1. table
  4. pie
  5. potato
  8. November
  9. table knife
  10. hat

For assistance use our online dictionary [www.webonary.org/comanche](http://www.webonary.org/comanche)

## Thanksgiving Gathering

Match the Comanche Word to the English Translation.

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Kuyunii                  | Pecan Pie        |
| Nanemunuu                | Squash           |
| Pia tuhkaru              | Thanksgiving Day |
| Pakutaakuyuni?atuhka?ena | Turkey           |
| Nakutaba?i No?a nookopu  | Family           |
| Hanibita tsometu         | Feast            |
| Tuehna?kwisi             | Harvest          |

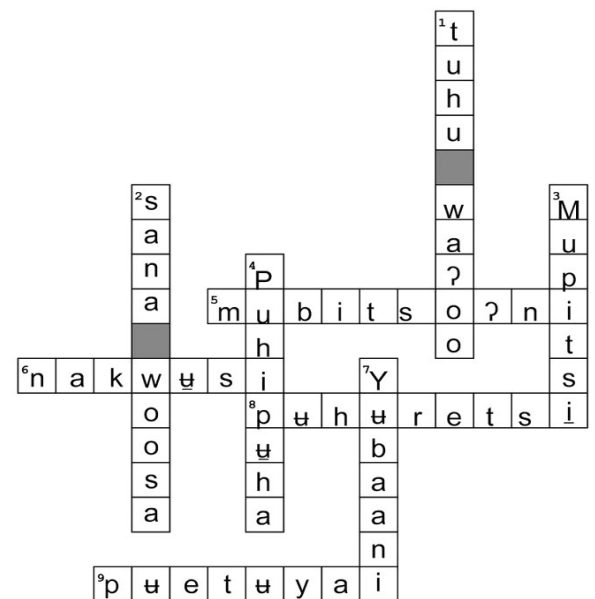
Answer Key for the Crossword Puzzle that was published in the October



## Comanche - Words of October

- Down**
1. black cat
  2. sticky bag
  3. mythological giant
  4. October
  7. Fall

- Across**
5. candy
  6. pumpkin
  8. spider
  9. ghost



Follow us on Facebook @CNlanguage



# INDIGENOUS Peoples' Day



All Photos on this Page/Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

Members of the Comanche Indian Veterans Organization (CIVA) and the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache (KCA) Veterans Organization, procession with the flags to officially begin the Indigenous People's Day Opening Ceremony the morning of October 11, at the Lawton City Hall.



Junior Comanche Nation Princess, Angelina Steinmeyer, visits with Comanche elder, Gerald Burton, following the Indigenous People's Day opening ceremony October 11, at the Lawton City Hall.



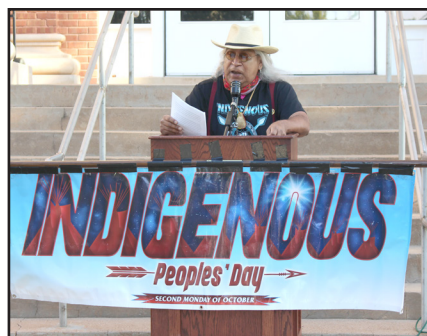
Indigenous People's Day Committee members, Marion Simmons, Gwen Nauni, and Rose Pennah, enjoy the Opening Ceremony of the 2021 Indigenous People's Day.



The CIVA and KCA Veterans Organization, along with the Junior Comanche Nation Princess, Angelina Steinmeyer, CIVA Princess, Mercedes Banderas, and the Comanche Nation Princess, Rita Monoessy, take a photo in the front of the Lawton City Hall, the morning of Oct.11, following the Indigenous People's Day Opening Ceremony.



Louie Pohawpatchoko of the Lawton Police Dept., Travis Komahcheet and Kristy Komahcheet help Dr. Cornel Pewewardy set up for the Opening Ceremony of Indigenous People's Day.



Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, founder of the Indigenous People's Day Committee, welcomes everyone to the Opening Ceremony on Oct. 11, at the Lawton City Hall.



Lawton Mayor, Stan Booker, Junior Comanche Nation Princess, Angelina Steinmeyer, Comanche Nation Princess, Rita Monoessy, Miss Native American USA, Shelby Mata, and Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah. BELOW: The three princesses sign to the Lord's Prayer.



Glenna Niedo and her sidekick snuggle up in their OU blanket during the cool autumn morning of the Indigenous People's Day Opening Ceremony.



Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, takes a photo with his aunts, Sandra Chesnut and Donzetta Ikner, at the Indigenous People's Day Opening Ceremony.





# Military News

Submitted by Lanny Asepermy/CIVA

## CIVA Military News

Calvin "PO" Patchawpatchoko – NUMU PUKUTSI

There was once a very elite group of Contrary Warriors among the Comanches called *Pukutsi* meaning, according to the Comanche dictionary, Crazy Warriors (men who did things backwards; or being stubborn). The Pukutsi was brave to the extreme point even beyond the foolhardy stage. The origin of the *Pukutsi* is obscure and the idea behind the behavior of those fearless warriors was not handed down.

Any man brave enough and desiring to do so could become a *Pukutsi*. No one ever molested *Pukutsi* because he was so recklessly brave. He wore a long sash around his waist and, in battle, rolled out his sash, stuck the free end into the ground with an arrow and took his stand. He stood tethered by his sash until victory was won or death took him.

A *Pukutsi* is afraid of nothing. There are not many men or women such as these among the Comanches.



Courtesy Photo

A painting by Francis Blackbear Bosin titled "Pukutsi Comanche Dog Soldier."

30 Comanche veterans have earned the honorary title of *Numu Pukutsi*. They have earned the title as each have been decorated for Gallantry, Heroism, Bravery or Valor on the battlefield or have fought and killed the enemy in Hand to Hand Combat.

They are: **Calvin Atchavit (deceased)**, Army WWI, Distinguished Service Cross; **Edward L. Clark (deceased)**, USMC WWII and Korean War, Silver Star, Marine Medal and Commendation with/Valor Device; **Lee D. Toquothy (deceased)**, Army Korean War, Silver Star; **Michael Waddle**, Army Vietnam War, Silver Star; **George Red Elk**, Army Vietnam War, Silver Star; **Meech Tahsequah (missing in action)**, Army Air Force WWII, Distinguished Flying Cross (3); **Vincent Myers Sr. (deceased)**, Army Air Force WWII, Distinguished Flying Cross (2); **Jonathon George**, Air Force Cold War, Distinguished Flying Cross; **Rudolph Kosechequetah**, Army Vietnam War, Soldiers Medal; **Raymond Portillo (deceased)**, USMC WWII, Bronze Star with/Valor Device; **Lucien "Jimmy" Looking Glass**, USMC Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device; **Johnny Tiddark**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device; **Brown Yackeyony Lightfoot (deceased)**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device, Commendation with/Valor Device and Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Star; **Kenneth W. Hernasy (deceased)**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor device; **Lawrence Kassanavoid (deceased)**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device and Commendation with/Valor Device; **Edwin Chappabitty Jr. (deceased)**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star w/Valor Device and Commendation with/Valor Device; **Cloyce V. "Chuck" Choney**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device (2); **Ronald "Ron" Parker**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device; **Richard Ortiz**, Army Vietnam War, Bronze Star with/Valor Device; **Amos Makes Cry**, Army Vietnam War, Commendation with/

Valor Device; **Philip Rogers Sr.**, USMC Vietnam War, Commendation with/Valor Device; **Kristopher Wermey**, Army Afghanistan War, Commendation with/Valor Device; **Leland Parker**, USMC Vietnam War, Achievement with/Valor Device; **Lewis Chasenah**, USMC Vietnam War, Achievement with/Valor Device; **Joshua J. Ware (deceased)**, USMC Iraqi War, Achievement with/Valor Device (posthumously); **Lindsey Huston Griner**, USMC, Achievement with/Valor Device; **Joseph Plata (deceased)**, Army Vietnam War, Air Medal with/Valor Device; **Edmond "Eddie" Mahseet (deceased)**, USMC Vietnam War and **Ronald "Ron" Mahsetky**, USMC Vietnam War both fought and killed the enemy in Hand to Hand Combat.

A 13th Comanche veteran has been identified as a *Numu Pukutsi* – Army Master Sergeant (Retired) Calvin Pohawpatchoko (1925-79) was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement on February 13, 1945 in France. His citation reads in part "Calvin Pohawpatchoko, 38508337, Private First Class (then Private) Infantry, Company "K", 255th Infantry Regiment, 63rd Infantry Division, for heroic achievement in action on 13 February 1945, in the vicinity of Bilesorucken Woods, France. When his platoon's advance toward the objective was stopped by enemy automatic weapons and small arms fire, Private First Class Pohawpatchoko employed fire and maneuvered to gain a vantage point from which he assisted in silencing an enemy light machine gun and its supporting rifles. He then advanced to the enemy position and with the aid on one other man killed one, wounded two and captured five of the enemy. The quick thinking, volunteer action and disregard for personal safety displayed by Private First Class Pohawpatchoko allowed the platoon to secure its objective. Entered military service from Cache, Oklahoma." The citation was signed by Louis E. Hibbs, Major General, US Army, Commanding. MSG Pohawpatchoko also served in Korea during the war with the 7th Infantry Division and in Vietnam. He is one of only three Comanches to serve in three wars. He was also awarded a second Bronze Star, the European-Africa-Middle Eastern Campaign medal with/3 Battle Stars and the Combat Infantryman Badge during World War II.



Courtesy Photo

### MSG Calvin Pohawpatchoko POW/MIA Recognition Day

A Color Guard was provided for POW/MIA Recognition Day at Ember Thomas Park, in Lawton, on September 17. The ceremony was hosted by Korean War & Defense Veterans Chapter 319 and Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 751.

The Color Guard posted, presented and retired the Colors. Princess Mercedes sang the National Anthem and the Pewewardy singers sang two veterans songs, the Comanche Flag song and the Comanche POW song.

CIVA Commander, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, was one of the two guest speakers and Vice-Chairman, Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, provided the drum and spoke on behalf of the Nation for the event. POW/MIA Recognition Day was established by President Jimmy Carter in 1979 to be held the third Friday in September.

There are 85,324 Americans unaccounted for (missing in action) from World Wars I & II, the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf, Iraqi and Afghanistan Wars including

one Comanche, Lt Col Meech Tahsequah, Korean War.

Comanches that were Prisoners of War are: Bruce Klinekole, WWII – Pacific; Myers Wahnee Sr, WWII – Europe; Cloyde Inman Gooday WWII – Europe; Samuel Trevino, WWII – Europe; Samuel "Doc" Pewewardy WWII – Europe; Dennis Karty Korean War. All POW's returned home except Karty who died in captivity. See the October edition of The Comanche Nation News for photos and stories about the seven Comanche POW/MIA.

The Color Guard consisted of eight veterans, Kevin Pohawpatchoko; George Red Elk; Lanny Asepermy; Clifford Red Elk; Frankie Patterson; Ron Parker; John McClung; and Ramonah Davis; Princess Mercedes Banderas; and seven Auxiliary members, Shirley Pohawpatchoko; Shelley Asepermy Nona Mitehcoy; Tavia Torralba; Suzanne Patterson; Mary Imotichey; and Liz Plata.



Courtesy Photo

### Kevin Pohawpatchoko

#### Cedar Blessing

A Cedar Blessing, on September 18, was requested by Carlita "Dusty" Poco Couch for her grandson, Robert Todd.

The blessing took place at Couch's home in Lawton during a family get together for Todd who will be departing, on September 22, for the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Ill., to begin his eight-week Boot Camp.

Kevin Pohawpatchoko conducted the blessing and was assisted by Dominic Pawlowski and Lanny Asepermy. George Red Elk provided a prayer for the family.



Courtesy Photo

George Red Elk, Dusty Couch, Kevin Pohawpatchoko, Robert Todd, Dominic Pawlowski and Lanny Asepermy.

#### Kenneth Alan Roberts



Courtesy Photo

#### Roberts

A Funeral Detail (requested by CIVA member John McClung) was provided for the family of Kenneth Alan Roberts, at their home on Post Oak Road west of Cache on September 18.

Roberts was born on April 26, 1947, in Auburn, NE and passed away on September 12, 2021, at age 74 years. He served in the Army from 1964-69 including overseas service in Korea, Germany and Vietnam.

His awards include the Good Conduct; National Defense Service; Armed Forces Expeditionary; Vietnam Service with/3 Battle Stars; Korean Defense Service; Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Palm; and Vietnam Campaign with/1960 Device.

The U.S., Oklahoma and Army flags were displayed, his military bio read, a roll call

was conducted, a firing squad fired a volley of three rounds, Taps was sounded and his casket flag was folded and presented to his widow. A meal was provided, by Lena Chibitty McClung, after the ceremony.

The detail consisted of Kevin Pohawpatchoko; George and Clifford Red Elk; Dominic Pawlowski; Lanny and Shelley Asepermy; John Bennett and John Grady McClung; Ramonah and Mark Davis; Lyman Guy; and Ron Parker.

#### Eldon Douglas "DOUG" Williams



Courtesy Photo

#### Williams

A Funeral detail was provided for the family of Marine retiree and Gunnery Sergeant Eldon Douglass "Doug" Williams on September 18, at the Fort Sill National Cemetery.

GySgt Williams was born on August 16, 1946, and passed away on September 11, at age 73 years.

He retired from the Marine Corps after serving from 1967-89 including a almost 16-month tour of duty in Vietnam as a door-gunner with the 1st Marine Air Wing based in Da Nang, South Vietnam. GySgt Williams was a Fleet Marine and served with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Marine Divisions. His assignments were at Parris Island, S.C.; Camp Lejune, N.C.; Detroit, Mich.; Washington D.C., Camp Schwab, Okinawa; and Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. He deployed on five 6-month "Cruises" to the Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas and Western Pacific.

His awards include the Combat Action ribbon; the Navy, Navy Meritorious Service and Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendations; the Commendation; Good Conduct w/Silver Star; Marine Expeditionary; National Defense Service; Vietnam Service w/4 Battle Stars; Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm; and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device medals; the Fleet Marine Force, Recruiter and Sea Service Deployment ribbons; and the Combat Air Crew and Fleet Marine Force badges.

He and his wife, Christine, resided in Medicine Park. The service was gravesite due to the COVID guidelines.

The detail consisted of seven veterans, George Red Elk, Lanny Asepermy; Clifford Red Elk; Ron Parker; Clifford Takawana; Jimmy Caddo; and Ramonah Davis; three Auxiliary members, Shelley Asepermy; Mary Imotichey; and Christine Armstrong; Princess Mercedes Banderas and the Sovo Singers, Gene Sovo; Bubba Sovo; Robert Tehauno, and Victor Tahchawwickah. The Marine Corps provided pallbearers, bugler and casket flag presentation detail and VFW Post 1192, from Duncan, provided the firing squad.

His mother is the late Reba Jo Kosechequetah (DOD August 25, 1997).



Courtesy Photo

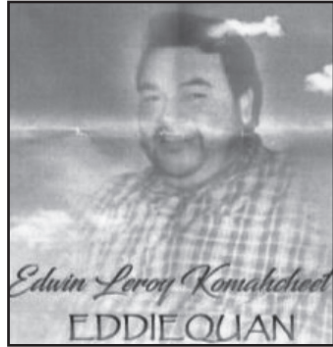
#### Marine Corps Funeral Detail



Courtesy Photo

#### VFW Post 1192 Firing Squad

#### Edwin Leroy "EDDIE QUAN" Komahcheet



Courtesy Photo

A Funeral Detail was provided for the family of Edwin Leroy "Eddie Quan" Komahcheet, on October 1, at Post Oak Cemetery in Indianoma.

Komahcheet was born on August 16, 1944, and passed away on September 27.

He served on active duty in the Navy from April 25, 1962, until May 25, 1964, earning the grade of Seaman Apprentice (SA). He completed his military service, in the Navy Reserve, on April 27, 1968. SA Komahcheet completed Boot Training at the Naval Training Center San Diego, Cali.; Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Fla.; and aboard the USS Saratoga (CVA-60). He was awarded the National Defense Service medal for service during a nation emergency.

The detail consisted of Kevin Pohawpatchoko; George and Clifford Red Elk; Lanny Asepermy; Ron Parker; Frankie Patterson; John McClung; Lyman Guy; Princess Mercedes Banderas; Mary Imotichey; and Liz Plata.

The Navy provided a two-Sailor flag presentation detail and the Comanche Nation Police Department provided a 5-person firing squad.

His parents are the late Jessie Poahway (1915-85) and Frank Pahcheka (1915-99).

This marked the 24th funeral detail for 2021 marking the most funeral details the CIVA has provided in any year. The previous high was 23 in 2015.



Courtesy Photo

#### Comanche Nation Police Department Firing Squad



Courtesy Photo

Navy detail preparing to present the casket flag.

#### Ellis Edward Torralba



Courtesy Photo

#### Torralba

A Funeral Detail was provided for the family of the late Ellis Edward Torralba (February 3, 1945 – October 4, 2021, 76 years) during a Celebration of Life service at the Fletcher Christian Church in Fletcher, Okla., on October 9.

Torralba served in the Navy from February 28, 1964, to February 27, 1968, earning the grade of Boatswain Mate Third Class. He completed Boot Training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Ill., after which he was assigned to the USS Springfield (CLG-7), a guided missile cruiser. The Springfield's home port was the Port of Villefranche-sur-Mer, on the French Riviera. While aboard the Springfield, he deployed to the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. In February, 1966, he was reassigned

to Naval Air Station Charleston, S.C., aboard Minesweep Boat 27 and with the Minesweep Landing where he commanded his own boat.

His awards include the Good Conduct and National Defense Service medals and the Expert Rifle Ribbon.

He is survived by his wife, Lorene, of the home in Fletcher, three daughters, two sons and ten grandchildren. Torralba is the son of Paul (1917-82) and Mary (1922-11) Torralba.

## Quilt Presentation

On September 28, a beautiful patriotic quilt, fabricated by Linda Chebahtah, was presented to the CIVA in the Patriot Room.

Chebahtah is the wife of Air Force retiree and Vietnam War veteran, Joseph Chebahtah. They live in Slidell, La., and made the 1,400 mile round-trip for the presentation.

Attending the presentation was Chairman Mark Woommavovah; George and Clifford Red Elk; Lanny and Shelley Asepermy; Frankie Patterson; Ron Parker; Princess Mercedes Banderas; Tavia Torralba; Mary Imotichey; Liz Plata and Bob T. Plata; Joseph and Linda Chebahtah, Chebahtah's brother, Leon Osgood and Jarrett Kopaddy.



Courtesy Photo

Pictured from left, Joseph Chebahtah, Chairman Mark Woommavovah, Princess Mercedes Banderas, CIVA Vice Commander George Red Elk and Linda Chebahtah displaying front of Chebahtah Quilt.

## October Monthly Meeting

The October, monthly CIVA meeting was held in the Comanche Veterans Patriot Room on October 7. The meeting began at 6 p.m. with a prayer by George Red Elk and Pledge to Allegiance. A meal from Burger King was provided.

Due to COVID guidelines only the Officers, Vice Commander Red Elk; Secretary Dominic Pawlowski; Treasurer Lanny Asepermy and Sergeant at Arms Clifford Red Elk; and Auxiliary Leader Tavia Torralba; and one veteran (Ron Parker) was allowed at the meeting. Commander Kevin Pohawpatchoko and Auxiliary Leader Shirley Pohawpatchoko were not able to attend due to a medical issue with the Commander.

After the meal, a roll call was conducted and a quorum was established.

The September monthly meeting minutes, Treasurer and Spoils Reports were reviewed and passed.

Old business included the Post Oak Mennonite Church Color Guard on Fort Sill; the Indigenous People's Day Color Guard at the Lawton City Hall; a Color Guard for the opening Indianoma basketball game; and the City of Duncan Veterans Day Parade.

New business was a reminder of the next meeting on November 4, and the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony for Cloyce Vann "Chuck" Choney.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

Pictured from left: CIVA officers, George Red Elk Vice Commander; Dominic Pawlowski Secretary; Lanny Asepermy Treasurer; Clifford Red Elk Sgt at Arms; and Tavia Torralba acting Auxiliary Leader.

Continued from Page 8.

**Chance Meeting**

After the October monthly meeting Ron Parker noticed a soldier driving around the west complex parking lot. After the soldier parked Parker asked the soldier if he could help him with anything. The soldier was Sergeant First Class Ben Rudy, a Senior Drill Sergeant stationed with Company C, 795th Military Police at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He was visiting Fort Sill to attend a graduation. It seems that SFC Rudy's unit uses the name "Comanche" as the designation for his company.

He stopped at the Comanche complex to learn more about Comanches. With that in mind, Parker briefly showed SFC Rudy around the Court of Honor and the Patriot Room as it was getting dark.

On October 8, Parker met with SFC Rudy and gave him a tour of the War Scout Circle of Honor and an in-depth tour of the Court of Honor, Tahseguah Garden and the Patriot Room. SFC Rudy was also introduced to Chairman Woommavovah for a brief visit.

Parker then took SFC Rudy to Medicine Bluff, the gravesite of Quanah Parker at the Fort Sill Post Cemetery, Beef Creek Cemetery on Fort Sill to the gravesite of Geronimo and the Comanche National Museum.

After the tour they met with George Red Elk and Lanny Asepermy and had lunch. SFC Rudy was given a crash course about Comanche military history.

After lunch, Parker presented him with a Comanche Nation flag while Red Elk and Asepermy presented him two CIVA T-shirts and a Comanche veteran's hat. He told the three Comanche veterans he was so very thankful for the information and insight provided him about the history of the Comanches and their veterans. His unit designation as Comanche Company will now have a special meaning as he will pass the information onto his Company Commander, First Sergeant, his Drill Sergeants and trainees.

SFC Rudy enlisted into the Army in 1999 and will be retiring in January, 2022. He completed three combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan for a total of 36 months of combat service.

SFC Rudy was awarded the Combat Action Badge and the Iraq and Afghanistan campaign medals and numerous other decorations, medals and ribbons. He is a native of Portsmouth, Va.



Courtesy Photo  
**Comanche Company  
795th MP Battalion Logo**



Courtesy Photo  
**Chairman Woommavovah and  
SFC Rudy**

**Veterans Day in Honor  
of Those That Served**

For the second year in a row the 45th annual CIVA Veterans Day Celebration and Pow-wow scheduled for November 11, at Watchetaker Hall was cancelled due to COVID guidelines.

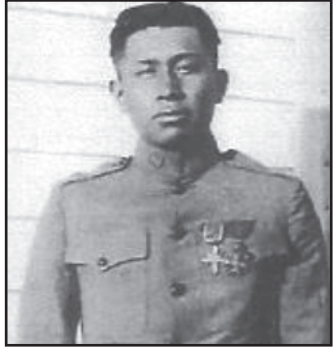
Veterans scheduled to be honored were father and daughter SSG Curtis Jon (Army 1997-20 Iraqi War) and LCpl Sky-lar Justice (Marine Corps 2017-19) Clark; TSgt Edward Chadwick Jett Jr. (Air Force 1994-14 Afghanistan War); BT2 Marlon Tahah (Navy 1980-84); and SSG Frankie Patterson (Army 1994-16 Iraqi War). Honors will be presented at a later date.

60 other Comanches followed including 21 others that served in Europe of which six were wounded in action.

Those that served in Europe were: **Calvin Atchavit,**

wounded in action, was a Code Talker; **Bert (Tanish Ott) Cable;** **George Clark,** was a Code Talker; **Gilbert Pahdi Conwoop,** wounded in action, was a Code Talker; **Amos (Komahcheet) Komah;** **Dewey Maddox;** **James Maddox;** **Carl Mahseet;** **Hugh Otipoby;** **Will Henry Perman-su;** **Samuel Pewewardy Sr;** **Frank Atewuthtakewa Red Elk,** was the last Comanche to return to the United States on August 1, 1919; **Samuel Tabbytosavit,** wounded in action, was a Code Talker; **Mikey Tahdoohrippah,** wounded in action; **Cleveland Tahpay,** wounded in action; **Norton Soporene Tahquechi,** first Comanche to serve in the Navy; **William Tarcypokeadooh;** **Roy Tooncepper;** **Bryan Topetchy;** **John Oscar Wahkahquah;** and **Jacob Wahkinney,** wounded in action.

**Wounded World War I  
Comanches**



Courtesy Photo  
**Calvin Atchavit**



Courtesy Photo  
**Gilbert Conwoop**



Courtesy Photo  
**Samuel Tabbytosavit**



Courtesy Photo  
**Mikey Tahdoohrippah**



Courtesy Photo  
**Jacob Wahkinney**

Photo not available for Wounded Warrior Cleveland Tahpay.

There are currently 1,288 Comanches on the CIVA Master List that have served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

35 known Comanches are currently on active duty or in the Army National Guard.

680 Comanches have served in the Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Women Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) or Women Army Corps (WAC).



Courtesy Photo  
**Chebahtah  
First Solider, 1883**

149 Comanches have served in the Marine Corps, Marine Corps Reserve or Women Marine Corps.



Courtesy Photo  
**Edward Clark  
First Marine, 1933**

228 Comanches have served in the Navy, Navy Reserve or Women Accepted Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES).



Courtesy Photo  
**Norton Tahquechi  
First Sailor, 1918**

171 Comanches have served in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Army Air Corps, Army Air Force or Women Air Force (WAF); and five Comanches have served in the Coast Guard.



Courtesy Photo  
**First Airman  
Teddy Tahsuda, 1941**

One Comanche, Nipper Tiddark, served in three branches of the military; one Comanche, Chebahtah, served during the Indian Wars (1792-1892).



Courtesy Photo  
**Nipper Tiddark  
Served in Army, Navy and Air  
Force**

One Comanche, Fredrick LeBarre, served during the Spanish-American War (1898).



Courtesy Photo  
**Frederick LeBarre Spanish-  
American War**

62 Comanches served during World War I (1917-18); 218 Comanches served during World War II (1941-45); 143 Comanches served during the Korean War (1950-53); 343 Comanches served during the Vietnam War (1962-73); 103 Comanches served during the Gulf War (1990-91); and 108 Comanches have served in either the Iraq (2003-11) or Afghanistan Wars (2001-21).

Ten Comanches have been killed in action; two Comanches died of wounds; and one Comanche died in captivity; one Comanche remains missing – body not recovered; 62 Comanches have been wounded in action (including 13 posthumously).



Courtesy Photo  
**Johnnie Rivas  
The first to fall June 6, 1944**

Seven Comanches were Prisoners of War.



Courtesy Photo  
**Bruce Klinekole  
First POW**

28 Comanches have been decorated for either Gallantry, Heroism, Bravery or Valor including one Distinguished Service Cross; four Silver Stars; six Distinguished Flying Crosses; one Soldiers medal; one Marine medal; ten Bronze Stars with/Valor Device; five Commendation medals with/Valor Device; four Achievement medals with/Valor Device; one Air medal with/Valor Device; one Belgium War Cross; and one Vietnam Gallantry Cross with/Star; it is documented that two Comanche fought and killed the enemy in Hand to Hand Combat – these 30 Comanches earned the honorary title of *Numu Pukutsi*.



Courtesy Photo  
**Lee Toquothy  
Silver Star**



Courtesy Photo  
**George Red Elk  
Silver Star**



Courtesy Photo  
**Michael Waddle  
Silver Star**

Three Comanches served in three wars, Kevin Pohawpatchoko (WWII, Korean, and Vietnam Wars), Kenneth Atauvich and John McClung (Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan Wars); one Comanche earned the rank of Brigadier General (Jonathon George), another Colonel (Raymond Portillo); and ten others Lieutenant Colonel.



Courtesy Photo  
**Kenneth Atauvich  
Three Wars**



Courtesy Photo  
**Jonathon George  
Brigadier General**

Four Comanches earned the enlisted grade of E-9 (Lanny Asepermy, Rudolph Kosechequetah, James Saryerwinnie and Randall Eckiwaduah); five Comanches are graduates of either West Point (Army – George Harrington and Jenifer Burns), Annapolis (Navy – Lance Whitewolf) or the Air Force Academies (Lawrence and Lamoni Yazzie); two Comanches are graduates of the Army Sergeants Major Academy (Asepermy and Kosechequetah); 23 Comanche Code Talkers from World War I (5) and World War II (17) were awarded the Congressional Gold medal, the highest civilian award of the United States – 14 Code Talkers that served in Europe during World War II were also inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame along with three individual Comanche veterans, Charles Chibitty, George Red Elk and Cloyce Choney.

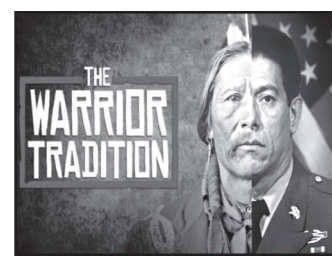


Courtesy Photo  
**Air Force Academy Graduate  
Lamoni Yazzie**



Courtesy Photo  
**Air Force Academy Graduate  
Lawrence Yazzie**

82 Comanche women have served in the military.



Courtesy Photo  
**Cover of the PBS documentary  
aired on Veterans Day 2019.**



Courtesy Photo  
**Roberta Clark Bradley  
First women to serve**

To all Comanche veterans, past to present, living and deceased the CIVA would like to thank each and every one of you for your dedicated, faithful and honorable service and for the many sacrifices you have made for the Comanche Nation and the Republic while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Since the Revolutionary War, which began in 1775, 42 million Americans have served in the military of which one million two-hundred thousand Americans have died as a result of war.

If you know of or see a veteran shake his/her hand, give them hug and say "Thank you for your service." Freedom is not free.

**VETERAN'S DAY**

Continued from Page 1

Edward Albert Nahquaddy Sr., who enlisted on February 24, 1918. Both LeBarre and Nahquaddy served in Europe and both were wounded in action. Nahquaddy Sr., was also one of five Comanches that served as a Code Talker during the war.

**CHONEY**

Cloyce Vann "Chuck" Choney, was selected for induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame (OKMHF) in October, 2020. Due to COVID, the Induction Banquet for him and nine other Oklahoma Military Heroes was cancelled.

On October 23, another 10 Oklahoma Military Heroes were scheduled to be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame along with the 2020 inductees. That Induction Banquet was also cancelled due to COVID. The Board of Directors of the OKMHF decided to allow each inductee to choose a time and place for their induction. Choney chose November 11, (Veterans Day) for his Induction Ceremony to be held in Watchetaker Hall. Attendance will be limited for the invitation-only ceremony, due to COVID guidelines.

The criteria for induction into the OKMHF are for veterans with records that demonstrate extraordinary acts of courage, heroism, gallantry and/or sacrifice in service to our nation. Since the OKMHF was established in 1999, only 220 Oklahoma heroes have been inducted into the hall.

Choney was awarded the Bronze Star with/Valor Device twice for heroism, on May 1, and July 6, 1970, on the battlefields of Vietnam while serving with the 101st Airborne Division as a Platoon Leader. His platoon was known as the "Comanche Raiders" and his call sign was "Comanche 6." He was also twice-wounded on those dates. The President of the OKMHF Board, COL (R) Jerry Shiles, and Executive Officer of the board, Cpl Bryan Hooper, will present honors. More about the ceremony in the December edition of TCNN.

# Obituaries

## Jordan W. Jenkins

Jordan W. Jenkins, 33, lost his life on July 16, due to a vehicle accident in Phoenix, Ariz.

Jenkins is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, as well as family ties to the Ft. Mojave Indian Tribe.

He leaves behind daughter, Arianna Jenkins, two sons, Braylon and Kyrie Jenkins.

He is survived by his mother, Patricia Jenkins, and father, Daniel Wilson; three aunts, Agatha Tsosie, Charlotte Knox and Colleen Garcia of the Ft. Mojave Indian Tribe.

As well as six aunts; Sharon Harrison, Nelda Paddock and Lynn Yellowfish, Tina Scott, Donna and Fonda Brooks, and two uncles; Terry Jenkins and Faron Brooks of the Comanche Nation tribe of Oklahoma.

Siblings: two brothers, Lanky and Carlene and their three children, Rudy and his two children; three sisters, Amelia Wilson and Nicole and Cyenne Jenkins. As well as many cousins and nieces and nephews.

Jenkins joins his two grandmothers, Jeanette P. Jenkins and Gladys Wilson, and beloved Step-mother, Emily Wilson.

Services was July 27, 2021, at Phoenix Funeral and Cremation.

## Gloria Marie Simmons Eckiwaudah



Courtesy Photo

### Eckiwaudah

Gloria Marie Simmons Eckiwaudah, was born Jan 3, 1939, to Elton and Ruth Simmons at Lawton-Kiowa Indian hospital.

She married Dennis Eckiwaudah and from this marriage she is survived by their daughter Natalie, son David of the home and Dennis and wife Lynette of Flagstaff, Ariz., her life partner Clyde Chemah of the home. Grandson Alan Eckiwaudah of Flagstaff, Ariz., granddaughter Stephanie and Kurt Montanye of Flagstaff, Ariz., great granddaughters Regina and Emma Montanye. Siblings, Bonita and Carl Paddyaker Sr. of Cache, Betty Simmons and Donnie Atkinson of Geronimo, Weldon and Marion Simmons of Geronimo, Saadia Tasso and Rick Kelly of Lawton. Special brothers, Elton Ray Permansu of Walters, Monte Potts of Elgin, Roger Wayne Tenequer of Oklahoma City, special sister Sue Morris of Skiatook, Okla. She also had numerous nieces, nephews, coworkers, and friends who loved her very much.

She attended and graduated from Geronimo School. In her early years she worked as a seamstress at Red River stitchery in Anadarko. She then attended Caddo County Vo-tech where she received her certificate and became a License Practical Nurse. She worked at Cyril nursing home and Silver Crest nursing home of Anadarko where she retired in 2019. She worked in the medical field as a nurse for 36 years.

Some of the things she loved to do were sewing, making shawls and quilts, along with beadwork, moccasins, and infant cradles. She enjoyed camping at the Walters Powwow and Comanche Nation Fair where she cooked her famous fry bread for family and friends.

The one thing she loved was going to Vegas and casinos so we gave her the nickname "Grandma Las Vegas." Preceded in death: Parents - Ruth and Elton Simmons Sr Brothers - Elton, Larry and Edwin Nephew - Quinn Allen Simmons Sisters - Kay Simmons and Lavona Codynah Paternal grandparents - Flora and Wilson Simmons Aunts - Clara Permansu, Martha Weryavah, Dorothy Ruth Simmons, Lizzie Hart, Ethylene Padilla Uncles - Ray Tenequer, Andrew Tenequer, Tony Padilla, Roy Simmons, Dewey Permansu, Nathaniel Woommavovah.

## Eldon Douglass Williams



Courtesy Photo

### Williams

Eldon Douglass Williams, 73, of Lawton went to his heavenly Home on September 11, in Lawton.

Graveside service was September 21, at Ft. National Cemetery Elgin. Burial with full military honors followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Williams was born July 30, 1948, in Lawton to Everett and Reba Jo (Kosechequetah) Giroir. He was raised in the Indianola and Cache area. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

Williams retired, as a Gunnery Sergeant, from the U.S. Marine Corps after serving from February 2, 1967, to March 1, 1989, (22 years and 1 month). He completed Boot Camp at the Marine Corps Recruit Training Depot Parris Island, S.C. and his Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Combat service in Vietnam from July 2, 1968, to December 17, 1969, (1 year, 5 months and 15 days) as a .50 caliber Huey Helicopter Door Gunner assigned 1st Marine Air Wing based in Da Nang.

Other assignments were at Camp Lejeune with the 2nd Marine Division; Camp Pendleton, Cali., with the 1st Marine Division with duty at Norton and Travis AFB, Cali.; Detroit, Mich., with the Marine Recruiting Command; Washington D.C. with HQs, U.S. Marine Corps; Camp Schwab, Okinawa with the Marine Track Vehicle Battalion and Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, with the 3rd Marine Division. He was a Fleet Marine and completed five 6-month deployments in the Mediterranean and Caribbean seas and Western Pacific.

His awards include the Combat Action Ribbon; the Presidential Unit Citation; the Meritorious Unit Commendation; the Commendation w/Gold Star, Good Conduct w/Silver and Bronze Stars, National Defense Service, Marine Expeditionary, Vietnam Service w/4 Campaign Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm and Vietnam Campaign w/1960 Device Medals; the Navy/Marine Corps Recruiter and Sea Service Deployment Ribbons; and the Air Combat Crew and Fleet Marine Force Badges.

He enjoyed working on hot rods, drag racing, riding the golf cart around. He loved his family with all his heart especially his grandkids.

Williams is survived by his loving family: wife Christina K. Williams of the home; son Justin and his wife Katy; grandkids: Skylar, Shawn, Zoei, Zaine, Jaxen; aunts: Virgie Kassanavoid, Vivian Holder, and Edna Pahcheka Poafpybitty; uncles: Edwin Komahcheet, J.D. Pahcheka and Dean Pahcheka.

He is preceded in death by: mother Reba Jo Kosechequetah; grandparents Frank and Lena Pahcheka.

## Marvin Chasenah



Courtesy Photo

### Chasenah

Graveside services for Marvin Chasenah, was September 22. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral

Home.

Chasenah came into this world on June 1, 1978, in Lawton, Okla., to Leslie Youngman and Ronald Chasenah and left on the morning of September 14, in Chattanooga, Okla. Chasenah was a member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma and Arapaho descent.

Chasenah was the first grandchild and was a big brother to all of the kids that came after him. Chasenah's school years were spent at Stony Point, Elgin, Geronimo and Chattanooga. Chasenah was a Traditional Dancer and danced with his Grandpa Rod at different powwows and also with his Gooday family as a young boy. Chasenah sang with his Uncle Darrell and brothers with Southern Boys and Plains Drifters drum groups.

Chasenah's greatest joy came at the birth of his children Nathan Edward and Sydney Marie and he loved his children with all his heart.

Chasenah worked as a Machine Tech at Comanche Nation Casino and as a Grounds Maintenance with the KCA Intertribal Land Use. He enjoyed listening to music, playing the guitar and spending time with his family in Chattanooga, especially his little shadow, his special Little nephew and partner in crime Avery Allen.

Chasenah is survived by his mother Leslie and Donnie Skeeter Reed, who played an important part in his life. Father: Ronald Chasenah of Lawton. Children: Nathan Edward and Sydney Marie Chasenah. Brothers: Ronald Jay and April; Mickey Chasenah, Jason Tonips, Darrell Jr., Kelly and Andrew Cable, Joe LeGrand, Cody Andryek; Sisters: Phyllis and Tom Beaver, Nina and Martha Burgess, Sharon Garza and Robin LeGrand. Uncles: Ben Youngman, Merrick Youngman, Darrell Cable Sr., Gerald, Gary, Donald, John and Kent Chasenah, Robert Davis. Aunts: Kay Cable, Theresa Davis, Mary June Chasenah, Linda Silverhorn. Friends: Bobby House, Mike Ice, Dustin Booker and Casey Chavez. Also influential in Chasenah's life were Earl Burgess Jr., and the late Bobby Tonips. Chasenah is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.

## Doralyn Poco Howell



Courtesy Photo

### Howell

Doralyn Poco Howell, 54, of Cache went to be with her Lord and Savior on September 15, in Oklahoma City.

Graveside services was September 20, at Deyo Cemetery with Pastor Carl Mullins officiating. Burial followed at Deyo Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Howell was born July 25, 1967, to Raymond and Carolyn (Werny) Poco in Lawton, Oklahoma. She attended school at Cache.

She married Chad Howell in Lawton. Howell enjoyed listening to gospel music, reading the bible, spending time with her family and friends especially her grandkids.

She is survived by: mother Carolyn Marquez of Cache; husband Chad Howell of Lawton; three siblings: Jose Marquez of Lawton, Johnny Ray Poco and Sylvia Marquez both of Cache; four grandkids; aunts and uncles: Jerry, John Jr., Merlin, Selma, Sandra, Glenna, Kathy and Lasonda.

She is preceded in death by: father Raymond Poco; uncle Dennis Werny; grandparents: John and Lena Werny Pekah; cousins: Sherry Mullins, Wesley Trice, Sarah Werny and Gina Carpenter.

## Glenn McCarthy Sr.



Courtesy Photo

### McCarthy

Glenn McCarthy Sr., of Lawton went to be with his Lord and Savior on September 15, in Lawton.

Graveside service was September 21. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

McCarthy was born in Lawton to on July 19, 1955, Silas and Ethelene (Keitharoco) McCarthy Sr. He attended school he was raised in Elgin and Lawton. McCarthy was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

McCarthy enjoyed playing golf, playing basketball loved spending time with his family and friends especially the grandkids. He was an avid OU fan. He loved to terrorize everyone.

He is survived by: ten children and their spouses: Glenn Haumpy McCarthy Jr. and Olivia Aitson; Mary and Danny Lindsey, Pau Tah Lee, Joe and Frances McCarthy, Melinda McCarthy, Teanna McCarthy, Odie Ototivo, Shanice and Luis Puento, Corri and Herman Nesbitt, Glenda Ototivo all of Lawton, 37 grandkids, five great children; siblings: Mary Morales, Vincent McCarthy Sr., Bruce McCarthy all of Elgin, Cheryl and Shan Gachot, Gus and Chris McCarthy, Kenneth and Jodie McCarthy all of Lawton

He is preceded in death by: his wife of 47 years, Linda McCarthy-Ototivo; parents: Silas and Ethelene McCarthy; brother Silas McCarthy Jr.; sisters: Janice Medina, Joanna Lials, Donna Victorian, Carlotta McCarthy; sister-in-law Laura McCarthy; two nephews: Mac Travis McCarthy and Silas McCarthy III.

## Barbara Jean Patterson



Courtesy Photo

### Patterson

Barbara Jean Patterson, 85, went her heavenly home on September 17, in Lawton with her loving family by her side.

Graveside services was September 23, at Post Oak Cemetery with Billy Komahcheet officiating. Burial followed at Post Oak Cemetery under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Patterson was born December 6, 1935, in Lawton to Bob and Jane (Woommavovah) Tenequer. She graduated from Ft. Sill Indian School. She was a proud full blood member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

She enjoyed going to the casino, pow paws, bingo, Comanche Elderly Centers, pending time with her family and friends.

Patterson is survived by: kids: Karen and Glen Evans (Crumbley), Michael and Susan Crumbley, Frankie and Suzanne Patterson all of Lawton, Lisa Ezell of Oklahoma City; grandkids: Shannon, Matt, Parker, Taylor, Leah, Lance, Bricanna, Chad, Brandon, Brett, Melinda, Ravyn, Cia and Mitchell; great grand kids: Jace, Carter, Bly and Clara, Bailey, Emma, Maci, Adylen, Jayda, Jaylen, Adylen, Savannah, Cheyenne, Dakota, Ciera, Colton, Holsten, Micah, Kain; son in law Tommy Hodges; sibling: Bob Tenequer; two great-great grandkids.

She is preceded in death by: parents Bob and Jane Tenequer; granddaughter Crystal Ingle; brothers: Max Burgess, Andrew Tenequer, Nathaniel Woommavovah and Ray Tenequer; sisters Ruth Simmons, Ethelene Tenequer, Ruth Woommavovah, Beatrice Samis; children: Glenda Hodges, Gary Bob Tenequer, Monette Mantzke.

## Bryon Keith Maddox



Courtesy Photo

### Maddox

Bryon Keith Maddox, 61, of Lawton went to his heavenly reward on September 20.

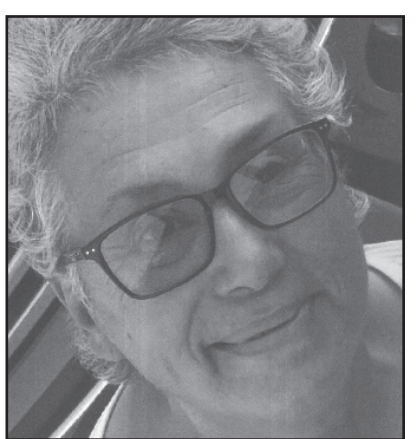
Graveside service was September 24, at Post Oak Cemetery in Indianola with Pastor Matt Asetamy officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home.

Maddox was born in Lawton to George Coosewoon and Mary Alice Maddox on January 31, 1960. He attended school in Lawton, Corn Bible Academy in Weatherford and graduated for Lawton Christian School. He graduated from Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, Texas. He was a proud member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma.

Maddox is survived by: three sisters: Virginia Wauqua and Mable Otopybo both of Lawton and Rosemary Chibitty of Indianola; brother Sammy Watts of Apache; nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He is preceded in death by: parents George Coosewoon and Mary Alice Maddox; brother-in-law Johnny Wauqua; niece Georgeann Scott.

## Carolyn Sue (Keys) Spelhaug



Courtesy Photo

### Spelhaug

Carolyn Sue (Keys) Spelhaug was born on Aug. 27, 1951. She went home peacefully to her heavenly Father on Oct. 10.

She is preceded in death by her grandparents Tom and Merle LittleChief and Reuban and Pearl Keys; her husband, Verne Dale Spelhaug.

Spelhaug is survived by both her parents: Thomasina (LittleChief) Kaywaykla and step-father James Kaywaykla and Neil Thomas Keys. Siblings: LaDana and Craig Miller; Jamasina Kaywaykla; Jana Kaywaykla; Lorraine and Michael Smith; Elizabeth Keys; one step-daughter, Michelle (Wise) Frye. Her children: Dawn and Rusty Kinion, Jason and Jamie Wise; as well as seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, one special friend Margie Murrow and numerous relatives.

As a teenager, Spelhaug enjoyed performing as a GoGo dancer for the band "The Plainsmen" at many venues. She also modeled for local stores in the Lawton area. She loved acting and enjoyed performing in many productions with her high school drama club. At the age of 18, she was casted to play the part of "Sunshine," for the movie "Little Big Man," that was directed by Arthur Penn in New York City. It was decided that she was too tall for the role of Sunshine. She departed New York City with an open invitation for Penn to return for future opportunities.

Spelhaug graduated from Lawton High School, where she received her diploma and also attended the University of Oklahoma. During her younger years, she was active in Lawton High Native American Club. She was a member of the Comanche Nation Tribe and descendant of the Wichita, Caddo and Kiowa Tribes. Spelhaug was also Pawnee Powwow Princess, in her earlier years, and also was a lifetime member of the Oklahoma Tia-Piah Society. She attended many pow-wows and ceremonies. She worked at Riverside Indian School in the early 1980's as a dorm matron and moved to security. She was a dispatcher for the Anadarko Police Department and decided to become a police officer. She attended Texas Tech for her CLEET certification and graduated from the Utah Federal BIA Police Academy and Oklahoma Police Academy. Spelhaug was proud to serve as one of the First three females to be hired as a BIA Federal Police Officers. She also worked security for the Delaware Nation and was an officer with the Comanche Nation Police Force. She was the first female Native American Police Officer for the city of Lawton and later with the Lawton Lake Patrol, where she later retired. After retirement, she worked at the Comanche Housing Authority, The Lawton Constitution and Dollar Tree.

Sadly, due to the current pandemic, we are unable to hold services. Per Spelhaug's request her remains shall be cremated and placed at the Fort Sill National Cemetery with her beloved husband. She was a member of the Transformation Church of Tulsa and will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.





# People, Places & Things Happening

## Women's Shelter Raises Awareness for Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Woman's Shelter employee, Bri Belle, ties a purple ribbon on a tree next to the Comanche Nation Powwow Grounds, to symbolize support for survivors of Domestic Violence and to raise awareness.

Story and Photos by Hannah Tehauno/News Staff

On October 15, the Comanche Nation Women's Shelter had an information display in Observation of October's Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Over the last three decades, much progress has been made to support domestic violence victims and survivors, to hold abusers accountable and to create and update legislation to further those goals.

According to The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN), or nctsn.org, Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) was launched nationwide in October 1987, as a way to connect and unite individuals and organizations working on domestic violence issues and raise awareness for those issues.

NCTSN, describes how Domestic violence is an epidemic affecting a individual in every community regardless of age, economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion and nationality.

The tribal employees were able to take part in tying purple ribbons around the Comanche Nation Campus in observation of Domestic Violence month. Penny Hammond, an employee at the Women's Shelter, expressed.

"Every year we usually do a training class on furthermore demonstrating about Domestic Violence, and what to do when or if witnessing this to a loved one or someone we don't know. Due to Covid-19, as well as the Comanche campus being closed to the public, the Women's Shelter wanted to be able to still invite employees to come and get information pamphlets as well as a refreshment."

Hammond, was very grateful that Administration was very accepting in allowing the shelter to still hold an event to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness, for additional information feel free to contact Comanche Nation Women Shelter (580) 492-3590.



## Oklahoma Native Joy Harjo Begins Third-Term as U.S. Poet Laureate

Tulsa native and Muskogee Nation citizen, Joy Harjo, the first Native American woman to serve as the nation's poet laureate, began her third term in September, an honor previously bestowed only once.

"Throughout the pandemic, Harjo has shown how poetry can help steady us and nurture us," Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden said. "I am thankful she is willing to continue this work on behalf of the country. A third term will give Joy the opportunity to develop and extend her signature project."

"Joy is our first Native laureate, but I don't think the historic nature of her laureateship played a big part in the decision," Rob Casper, head of Poetry and Literature at the Library of Congress, said of her third term. "It was really more about unfinished work."

Harjo told *Gaylord News* that Indigenous social justice issues have evolved from her time as a poetry student at the University of New Mexico, where she completed her degree in 1976, to present day as the 23rd poet laureate and author of several works.

Harjo said she started writing about Native social justice issues as a participant, and her work has always been most often inspired by her people and justice.

"Sometimes on a bad day I think nothing's changed at all," Harjo said.

As a symbol of positive change, Harjo singled out the American Rescue Plan Act's historic allocation of \$20 million toward preserving Indigenous languages.

Federal dollars have never before been allocated for this specific cause, so for Harjo, that acknowledgement by the federal government means that Native languages, and the cultures embedded within them, are being given the attention and support they deserve.

"When I saw that I thought that was astounding," Harjo said. "None of us have ever seen legislation like that, that actually acknowledges that one, Indigenous people are the root cultures, and that our languages are necessary."

Cherokee author, Kelli Jo Ford, said she hopes the Biden administration's funding will improve access to Indigenous languages.

She said she takes Cherokee Nation language lessons twice a week and calls them "a gift."

"I think there are a lot of people who are hungry for the language and want to carry it into the future, especially as we've lost so many Cherokee speakers during a pandemic," Ford told *Gaylord News*.

"Particularly for southeastern tribes, Christianity has been a part of our story for a really long time," Ford said. "And it is kind of a part of the American colonial project and assimilation, but it's also something that we've adapted and turned into cornerstones of our culture."

Deb Haaland, a poetry student of Harjo's, is the first Native American to serve as secretary of Interior and a Cabinet member.

Harjo stated, "Keep your grounding as you reach for beauty, or for accomplishment. Don't hang your worth on what other people think is important."

## Strong Hearts Native Helpline Becomes Independent Organization

Solidifying its voice in the movement for the safety of Indigenous peoples and tribal communities, StrongHearts Native Helpline has officially launched into history as its own national Native non-profit organization on October 1.

"Establishing ourselves as an independent non-profit organization is an exciting step for StrongHearts Native Helpline," said Lori Jump (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians) director, StrongHearts Native Helpline. "StrongHearts would not be where it is today without the support of the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC) and the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline). We look forward to working alongside these organizations to advocate for Native American and Alaska Native victim-survivors."

In 2012, the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center and the National Domestic Violence Hotline prioritized the need for a domestic violence hotline to support tribal communities across the United States. Together with input from tribal leaders, a Native women's council, domestic violence experts, and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program, NIWRC and The Hotline developed a plan to establish StrongHearts Native Helpline, a Native-centered hotline staffed by advocates with a strong understanding of Native cultures, as well as issues of tribal sovereignty and law. StrongHearts launched its services in March 2017 in Austin, Texas — home to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, which provided initial infrastructure and technology support.

As StrongHearts follows the original thoughtful plan created by the NIWRC and The Hotline to become an independent non-profit organization with its own board of directors. As a program under NIWRC, StrongHearts received advocacy training, financial oversight, as well as technical support and mentorship in the areas of technology, communications and policy development.

"Creating more voices advocating for Indigenous survivors of violence has always been the goal, and we could not be prouder of the incredible work accomplished by the StrongHearts team to date," said Lucy Simpson (Diné), executive director, NIWRC. "Our hearts are filled with hope and healing for the future as StrongHearts carries this good medicine forward for our people."

## American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: November 2021

The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. The event culminated an effort by Red Fox James, a member of the Blackfeet Nation who rode across the nation on horseback seeking approval from 24 state governments to have a day to honor American Indians.

In 1990, more than seven decades later, then-President George H.W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating the month of November "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations have been issued every year since 1994 to recognize what is now called "American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month." This Facts for Features presents statistics for American Indians and Alaska Natives, one of the six major race categories defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

The following facts are possible thanks to responses to the U.S. Census Bureau's surveys.

### Did You Know?

**7.1 million**  
The nation's American Indian and Alaska Native population alone or in combination with other race groups in 2020.

**10.1 million**  
The projected American Indian and Alaska Native population alone or in combination with other race groups on July 1, 2060. They would constitute 2.5% of the total population.

**324**  
The number of distinct, federally recognized American Indian reservations in 2020, including federal reservations and off-reservation trust land.

**574**  
The number of federally recognized Indian tribes in 2020.

**142,972**  
The number of single-race American Indian and Alaska Native veterans of the U.S. armed forces in 2019.

## 2021 Eisenhower High School Homecoming Court



Courtesy Photo

Three Comanche tribal members were a part of the Eisenhower High School Homecoming Court in October. From left: Lillian Kester, Olivia Choney, and Trinity Ahtone. The young Comanche ladies are currently attending Eisenhower High School, and are Seniors Class of 2022.

### Zero Waste Food Preservation Tips:

Up to 40% percent of food in the US is uneaten — the average household throws away \$1,350 to \$2,275 per year in wasted food. Each month we will explore zero waste recipes and create tips to reducing food waste in the home!

If you are not able to cook ingredients in time — focus on preservation to keep them from going bad!

#### Jam can be your JAM

Cooking down fruits or vegetables into a jam can be an excellent way to preserve items at their peak before they head into the trash can.

#### BASIC FRIDGE JAM

This recipe can be used for any non citrus fruit. It's terrific for berries, stone fruits, figs, pears, apple, quince, tomatoes, cranberries and more. You can also try fruit combinations, such as strawberry and rhubarb, mixed berries, peach and tomato and cranberry apple. Or, if you want to put a spin on your spread, add flavorings such as cherry with chili powder, blueberry with basil, strawberry with vanilla, blackberry with lemon verbena, peach with bourbon, plums with five spice powder, tomato with chili flakes, pear with cardamom, apple with cinnamon. This recipe can be scaled up or down.

#### Ingredients:

1 quart of fruit, stones, seeds, stems and peels removed (except for berries, cranberries and figs) and roughly chopped

1 cup of sugar

2 tablespoons of lemon juice

#### Method:

In a medium saucepan, bring the fruit and a splash of water to a simmer. Cook until the fruit falls apart, aiding the process with a potato masher as necessary.

Add the sugar and lemon juice and simmer, stirring frequently, until the jam thickens (the mixture will fall off a wooden spoon in sheets rather than drips).


Transfer to clean jars or a bowl. Cool to room temperature.

Cover and refrigerate for up to three weeks.

Stay tuned next month we will be talking about Pickling Properly in our Zero Waste: Food Preservation Series.


For more information please contact the Comanche Nation Office of Environmental Programs for more recipes or questions at (580) 492-3754.





# BIGFOOT STORYTELLING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH  
1:00PM - 5:00PM



LOCATION: 4 MILE RD. E MEERS/ PORTER HILL RD.  
FOLLOW SIGNS

MC: Lynn Munoz

Please follow Covid guidelines & bring your own chairs

VENUERS WELCOME. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS

EKA SIA

For information call Liz @ 580.591.3113

# Comanche Nation Chairman Woommavovah Wins Triathlon; Will Represent the State of Oklahoma at the National Games in 2022

By Jolene Schonchin/News Staff

On October 17, the Senior Games Triathlon was held in El Reno, Oklahoma, in conjunction with the Oklahoma City Triathlon Club, and Chisholm Train Triathlon. Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, completed in two events at the Oklahoma Senior Games, the Triathlon and the 5k Road Race.

Chairman Woommavovah WON the triathlon. The triathlon consist of a 750 meter swim, 15 mile bike, and 3.1 mile run. Chairman placed 2nd (by 10 seconds) in the 5k Road Race, which was held in September. Chairman Woommavovah qualified for the National Senior Games competition in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, May 10-23, 2022. He said he is honored to be representing Oklahoma and the Comanche Nation.

Chairman Woommavovah said, "I have received so many positive messages from our people, family and friends. I truly believe people get inspired by your actions, you need to care about what you are saying, and more than that, your actions have to be relevant, and your leadership must be able to support others on challenging goals. Be passionate and enthusiastic, lead by example, leaders should CARE for their people and most important Believe in Yourself. All good and lasting success is based on how we relate to God and how we relate to our fellow men and women. Together we are living our vision; Comanche Strong Stronger Together!"

The National Senior Games (NSGA) exists today as a non-profit organization dedicated to motivating active adults to lead a healthy lifestyle through the senior games movement.

The Games, a 20-sport, biennial competition for men and women 50 and over, is the largest multi-sport event in the world for seniors.

NSGA Member Organizations hold annual games with qualifying competitions in the year preceding The Games. Athletes that meet specific criteria while participating in the State Senior Games qualify to participate. To date, the NSGA has held 17 summer national championships.



POS	NAME	BIB	M/F	TEAM/CLUB	CAT	POS	GUN TIME	CHIP TIME
14	Mark Woommavovah	144	M		senior 1	1	01:27:52	01:27:52
21	Victor Wells	143	M		senior 2	2	01:33:37	01:33:37
52	Arthur Carman	141	M		senior 3	3	02:17:45	02:17:45

The Senior Games Triathlon results shows the time Chairman Woommavovah completed the competition. The triathlon consists of a 750 meter swim, 15 mile bike, and 3.1 mile run.

Comanche Nation Chairman, Mark Woommavovah, wins the Senior Triathlon Games on October 17, in El Reno, Okla. He qualifies for the National Senior Games competition in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, May 10-23, 2022. He said he is honored to be representing Oklahoma and the Comanche Nation.

## RAFFLE

Nov. 20th, 2021

\$5 a ticket

You do not need to be present to win

Contact Nolan Tahdooahrippah

580-919-0868



Shop Vac



Suitcase Set

## 2021 Crow/Oklahoma Handgame Schedule

**NOVEMBER 10, 2021:** Camp 7/North Spur Heights, Handgame Teams, Carnegie Park, Carnegie Ok.

**NOVEMBER 11, 2021:** Southside Handgame Team, Carnegie Park, Carnegie Ok. (Games will begin after Carnegie Victory Club Event.)

**NOVEMBER 12, 2021:** TOURNAMENT, Bearshield Family, Carnegie Park, Carnegie Ok. (For Tournament Info contact Mary Beaver, 405-664-5354)

**NOVEMBER 13, 2021:** Joe Fish, and Family Carnegie Park, Carnegie OK.



**NOVEMBER 14, 2021:** Challengers Handgame Team, Carnegie Park, Carnegie Ok.

**ALL GAMES WILL BE AT 6:30 PM!**  
For more information contact ALAN YEAHQO, (405) 933-0789.  
**ALL SPONSORS, PLAYERS, AND GUESTS TAKE COVID PRECAUTIONS!!**

# DEAN'S

Drive  Thru

# PAWN SHOP

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS



2617 S. Robinson Ave. OKC, OK 73109

[www.DeansPawn.com](http://www.DeansPawn.com)

(405) 239-2774



"OKC's Oldest Pawn Shop"



Follow us on Instagram @DEANSPAWNSHOP

SERVING OF ALL OF CADDO COUNTY, FLETCHER, ELGIN AND LAWTON AREAS

# Heating and Air

SALES-INSTALLATION-REPAIRS

Competitive Pricing on ALL Parts & Equipment

Duct Cleaning Services • Blown Insulation

We Accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover Cards

Call 405-829-1207

# W & R MECHANICAL L.L.C



Native American Owned & Operated

Email: [wrmecanical@gmail.com](mailto:wrmecanical@gmail.com)

**YOU. YOU. YES... YOU!**

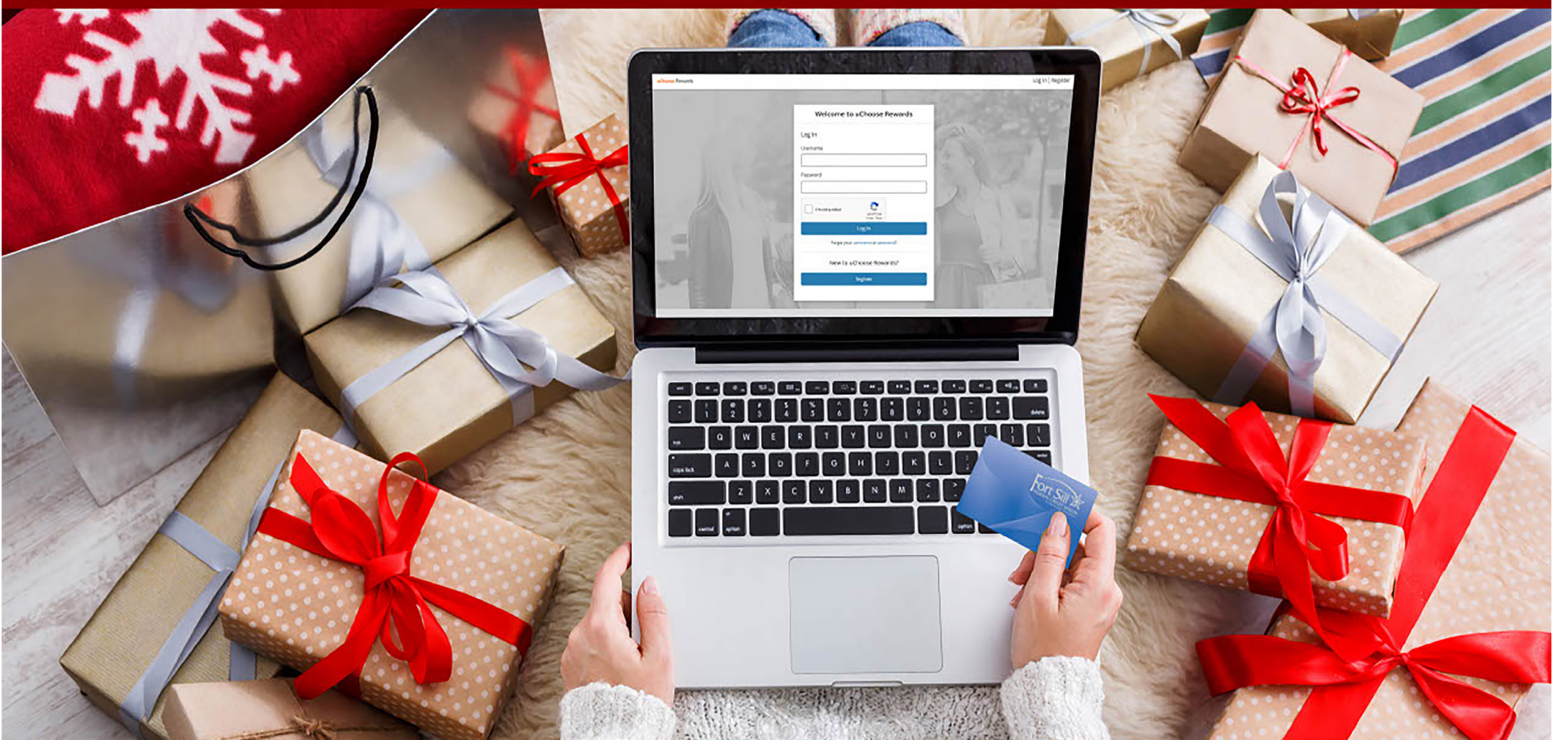
**Fort Sill**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE YOU!**

**GET STARTED @ FSFCU.COM**

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA

**uChoose Rewards**  
**You Shop. You Earn. You Choose.**



**Apply\* for a FSFCU Visa® credit card and begin earning Rewards!**

- Earn 5,000 Points when you register your credit card at [uchooserewards.com](http://uchooserewards.com)
- Earn Double Points on purchases made November through December 2021\*\*
- Earn Triple Points on purchases made November 23 - November 29, 2021



\*Credit Cards are subject to approval

\*\*Double Points excluded November 23 - November 29, 2021