

# Candidate Introductions for the 2025 Cheyenne and Arapaho Elections

The 2025 Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ primary election is set for the first Tuesday in October, Oct. 7, 2025. The top two candidates from the primary election will move forward for the general election set for the first Tuesday in November, Nov. 4,

2025. This year’s election includes the governor/lieutenant governor seats, legislative seats for Cheyenne District 2, Cheyenne District 4, Arapaho District 1 and Arapaho District 2.

## Governor/Lieutenant Governor Candidates:

### Incumbents: Reggie Wassana / Hershel Gorham

I, Reggie Len Wassana, am announcing my candidacy for the position of Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

I was raised in the Deer Creek Indian Community, located north of Weatherford, Okla., on the original allotment of my grandparents. My parents were the late Truman and Rose (YellowEagle) Wassana, and my grandparents include Susie (Pratt) and Chester Wassana, as well as Leonard and Lena Abbie (Big Bear) YellowEagle. I have a son named Christian Wassana.

After completing my education at Weatherford High School in 1986, I pursued a bachelor’s degree in business administration at the University of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Oklahoma State University. My professional journey began with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, where I worked as a planner and later in the Business Manager’s office. From 1996 until 2011, I served as

the executive director of the Tribal Housing Authority. I then took on the role of casino manager for the Delaware Nation before becoming executive director for the Caddo and Comanche Tribal Housing Authorities. In January 2016 I was elected as the legislator for Cheyenne District 3 and served as the Speaker of the Cheyenne and Arapaho 6<sup>th</sup> Legislature for two years. I was sworn in as the fourth Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on Jan. 6, 2018, and subsequently as the fifth Governor on Jan. 1, 2022.

Throughout my tenure, our administration has achieved significant productivity and stability. The tribe has enhanced its reputation at all governmental levels, including city, state and federal. We have consistently received unmodified audit opinions from 2019 to 2022 which is the highest possible audit rating. Furthermore, we have experienced ongoing employment growth and

I, Hershel Gorham, am announcing my candidacy for the position of Lieutenant Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Serving our tribal citizens and communities in a leadership capacity has been one of the greatest honors of my life. Serving alongside Gov. Reggie Wassana has been both rewarding and challenging.

We hit the ground running in 2018 and have never stopped. Guiding the tribes through the COVID pandemic that started in 2020

was extremely challenging, but I am pleased with the outcome and watching as our communities all rose to the challenge.

My greatest reward is knowing that the decisions we made have set up success for our tribes and citizens for the next seven generations.

We continue to thrive, both culturally and economically. As always, we continue to put our youth, elders and Veterans first. I look forward to continuing to serve as your Lieutenant Governor for the next four years.



Reggie Wassana

stable revenue. We successfully managed the challenges posed by the pandemic. Strong leadership will be essential to navigate the current U.S. administration’s budget cuts, which have a direct impact on the tribes. As I mentioned during the 2018 inauguration, “We are all going to work hard, work together, and get things done. And no one is going to do but us!” We are committed to advancing the tribes’ progress and would greatly appreciate your continued support.



Hershel Gorham

### Cornell Sankey / Denny Medicinebird

Cornell Sankey is a proud citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and a lifelong public servant dedicated to building a stronger, more sovereign future for all tribal citizens. With deep roots in our communities and a legacy grounded in service, Cornell brings integrity, experience and a heartfelt commitment to the people he hopes to serve as Governor.

Cornell is the son of the late Milton Clarence Sankey and was raised in the Hammon, Weatherford, Canton, Watonga and El Reno tribal communities by his mother, Ima Jean Whiteskunk. He honors the sacrifices of his mother, a single parent who worked hard to raise him and his brothers with strength and values rooted in the Cheyenne and Arapaho traditions.

He is a first-generation college graduate who has never stopped learning. Cornell earned his Associate of Arts degree in business administration from Redlands Community College, his

Bachelor of Business Administration/Finance from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. His academic and professional journey reflects a belief that education is key to our collective success.

Cornell’s background bridges tribal traditions and policy with modern leadership. He gained early inspiration from his grandmother, Mary El Rive Whiteskunk. His path was further shaped by the values and service of his grandfather, WWII Veteran Edward Whiteskunk, his uncle Warren Sankey, U.S.M.C. Korean War Veteran and cousin David Sankey, U.S.M.C. Vietnam Conflict Silver Star recipient. Cornell himself proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Gulf War, continuing a family legacy of defending and uplifting Native communities.

He brings to this campaign a clear mission to rebuild trust in tribal leadership, restore unity among our citizens, and advance

Denny MedicineBird, Cheyenne name Aenohe, meaning Hawk, is a proud citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, a U.S. Army veteran, and a dedicated public health advocate. His name, Aenohe, was given to him in his earliest years by his late great-grandfather, Joe White Antelope – a name that continues to carry spiritual strength, identity, and purpose in his journey of service.

He is the son of the late Murray MedicineBird and Stevette Mopope, and a direct descendant of Chief White Antelope – whose sacrifice and prayers continue to guide Denny’s path. His lineage and upbringing have instilled in him a deep sense of responsibility to his people and a commitment to honor those who came before.

Denny holds a Master’s Degree in Public Health and has led initiatives across tribal health systems, focusing

on culturally rooted prevention, youth development, and wellness. He has served as a Veterans Services Coordinator and Vice Chairman of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Veterans Board, working tirelessly to improve conditions for Native veterans and their families.

As a former Army medic who served in Operation Enduring Freedom, Denny brings firsthand knowledge of leadership, discipline, and sacrifice. He has applied these principles in civilian service-developing programs to combat substance use, secure health equity, and strengthen tribal capacity through grants and policy planning.

Denny’s campaign for Lieutenant Governor is grounded in community, culture, and transparent leadership. He is committed to paving a leadership path for our youth, empowering our veterans, and ensuring our



Cornell Sankey

opportunities for youth, veterans and elder. With professional, cultural humility and a grounded sense of purpose, Cornell is ready to serval all tribal members with transparency and accountability.

“Our ancestors endured, survived and overcame. Now it’s our turn to lead with courage and vision. The time to strengthen our sovereignty, invest in our people and create lasting change is now. I humbly as for the support of all Cheyenne and Arapaho citizens. Together we will move our tribes forward.”



Denny Medicinebird

elders are honored, respected, and protected.

Now is the time for leadership rooted in tradition and driven by action. The Sankey-MedicineBird team humbly asks all Cheyenne and Arapaho citizens for your encouragement and support – together, we can rise, heal, and move forward. The time to change is now. Hohou-Nease!

**PRIMARY ELECTION: OCTOBER 7, 2025**

**GENERAL ELECTION: NOVEMBER 4, 2025**

### Albert Old Crow / Amaris Sweezy

My name is Albert Old Crow and I’m running to be your next Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

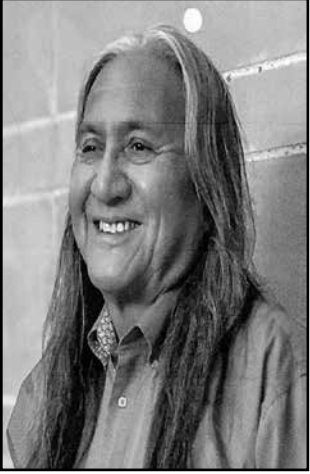
I was raised in Hammon, Okla., and now live in Colony. For more than 10 years I served as chairperson of our annual Tribal Council meeting. People now me for keeping meetings fair and respectful where every voice could be head.

I’ve tried to live a life of service since I got sober almost 40 years ago. Since 1996 I’ve co-hosted a Native American radio show, led sweat lodge ceremonies in federal prisons and helped support important tribal efforts like buying land at Bear Butte, building the Hammon Casino and bringing elec-

tronic voting to our council meetings.

Today I serve as your Tribal Council coordinator. In that role I’ve kept my promise, I share weekly updates, post quarterly spending reports and created a public dashboard to track resolutions. I also launched videos and podcasts to help tribal members learn how to write resolutions and take part in our government. I’ve shown up held listening sessions and stayed available to all.

Many of you have asked me to run for Governor. After thinking hard, I believe we can take this transparency and service to the next level. I’m not an expert in every area, but I’ll make sure the right experts are at the table.



Albert Old Crow

Wit honest leadership and sound decisions, I believe we can build a future like we’ve seen in tribes like the Chickasaws or Choctaws, strong programs, thriving businesses and benefits for all.

Tous, Relatives. My name is Amaris Sweezy, and I’m proud to announce my candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. I am Arapaho and Navajo (Naasht’ézhi Tábaqhi) from Greenfield, Okla., and currently reside in El Reno, Okla. I am the daughter of Roderick Sweezy Sr. and Angela Sweezy of Greenfield. My paternal grandparents are the late Sam Sweezy and the late Mary K. (Blindy) Sweezy. My maternal grandparents (Táchii’nii) are Mabel Dodson and the late Frank Dodson. I’m a mother of two wonderful children, Samuel and Josephine, and a life partner to Duane Dudley. I’m a Navy Veteran and I hold a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Management from Oklahoma State University and a Master of Business Admin-

istration from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

I am running for Lieutenant Governor alongside Albert Old Crow, our candidate for Governor. Together, we are committed to building a government that leads with integrity, listens to our People, and operates with transparency and accountability. Our vision is grounded in cultural strength, community investment, and creating long-term opportunities for all tribal members.

My life experiences – from military service to motherhood, from academic achievement to cultural involvement – have all prepared me to step forward in service to our People. I believe true leadership means serving others – our youth, our elders, our Veterans, and generations yet to come. Our goal is to shape a future that honors our sovereignty and



Amaris Sweezy

reflects the strength of who we are by remembering our traditional values coupled with real-world experience.

It would be an honor to earn your trust, your support, and your prayers as we work together for a brighter, stronger, and more united future for our Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Be good to one another and I appreciate your time. Hohou.

## Governor/Lieutenant Governor Candidates: Alden Whiteman / Debra Woolworth

Alden Whiteman is an en-rolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, having chosen to identify as Arapaho at the age of 18. He is the son of Dr. Henrietta Mann and Alfred Whiteman Jr., and the great-grandson of Anna Little Raven and Whiteshirt. Alden has two sisters, four adult children and one granddaughter.

Alden attained a higher education degree from American University in Washington D.C. (2001) and earned master’s degrees from Duquesne University in 2006 and Central Washington University in 2010. He studied Ethical Leadership for Modern Organizations and Natural Resource Management reflecting his interest in community-centered leadership and ways to confront complex environmental challenges to find sustainable solutions. His academic research has focused on the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and Indian Gaming that

underscores his interests in tribal sovereignty, economic development and policy.

He has worked at the federal government and tribal government levels for decades including Dept. of Health and Human Services, and the Corporation for National and Community Service/AmeriCorps in Washington D.C. He has held professional leadership positions for the Office of the Secretary under Dr. Donna Shalala and the 16<sup>th</sup> Surgeon General of the United States, Dr. David Satcher. Furthermore, he worked directly under the political appointee at the Administration for Native Americans. He served as the Grants Manager for the Indian Health Service Scholarship Program where he was responsible for administering tuition and stipends for all the IHS medical students.

Alden is seeking to serve as the next member-elected Governor of the Cheyenne



Alden Whiteman

and Arapaho Tribes. Alongside his running mate, he is committed to engaging with tribal members, both in state and out-of-state to inform them about the implementation of community driven priorities. He believes timely and transparent community is essential for addressing the challenges facing the Cheyenne and Arapaho people and for protecting the sovereignty of the Tribes.



Debra Woolworth

Gaming Commission as a Projects Specialist off and on since 2016.

My passion has always been to serve where most needed. I believe I would be an asset as the Lt. Governor and would provide honesty, integrity, compassion, and fairness in my leadership.

## Arapaho District 1 Candidates: Incumbent Diane Willis

I, Diane Willis, registered and enrolled Arapaho tribal member for A1 submit my declaration of candidacy for the Arapaho District 1 Legislature.

I would like to say it is a privilege to be able to run for the Arapaho District 1 office to serve our people.

My full name is Diane M. (Lime) Willis. I grew up in Canton and went to school there. My parents are the late Maurice (Funny) Lime and the late Yolanda (Tillie) Green, Lime, Goud. My grandparents are Maurice Lime Sr., and Mae Bates, Lime. Albert Green Sr., and Lola Whiteman Green, all of the Canton Community.

I have five daughters, one son and 11 grandkids. I have lived in the Watonga Com-

munity for 47 years and have stayed updated on the Canton Community since that is my hometown. Many of our people have gone from this small community. Some return to visit, others never return.

My achievements in my first term while holding the A1 legislative seat are:

Setting up the A1 District office for community members to use for communication with Concho’s programs for assistance,

Holding monthly community meetings for updates on A1 legislative business,

Attending all legislative monthly meetings, public hearings and special sessions called by the governor and performing the job duties as required by the Cheyenne



Diane Willis

and Arapaho Constitution for the Legislative Branch,

Provided all ERC buildings in our district with kitchen supplies, ice chest to be used during activities held there, etc.



Amanda (Cedar) Shirey

### Amanda (Cedar) Shirey

I am running for A1 Legislator to serve my people and to honor my ancestors and future generations. My Arapaho roots are in the A1 community, specifically Carlton and Eagle City. My son and I have moved to A1 and would like to build a home and future near Canton, in order to be of service

to my community and to raise my son in our tribal ways and near my Arapaho people. I want to improve our Arapaho community by helping to bring more jobs and housing to the A1 district. I want o make sure tribal members are heard and concerns are addressed by our leaders.

## Arapaho District 1 Candidates: Donald Wayne Runnels

I would like to officially announce candidacy for Arapaho District 1 legislator. My name is Donald Wayne Runnels Jr., and I am the son of Donald Runnels Sr., and the late Christine Blind. My maternal grandparents are the late Linda Blind and the late Henry Shawnee. I was raised by my maternal grandmother Ora Jo Swanegan in Watonga, Okla.

I am a proud Watonga High School graduate where I earned scholarships to attend Northern Oklahoma College in Enid, Okla., where I earned an Associate of Arts degree and to Creighton University where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications/Public Relations.

In my professional career I have found myself in roles that required me to take initiatives for the programs I worked for. Whether it was supporting the youth or establishing elder prioritized needs, I found fulfillment in the project planning stages and following through to the end. This will be a direct reflection of how I intend to serve the people of A1 and the tribes as a whole.

I look forward to sharing my goals and intentions as we prepare for the elections. My values are very family based as I am a loving father and spouse. I have overcome many obstacles and had to face things head on in order to heal and grow in my personal journey.



Wayne Runnels

It is with a pure heart and mind that I ask you to consider supporting me in the upcoming election of District A1.

### Kenny Ray Williams

HaBa, Tous, Hello, I’m running for the Arapaho District 1 legislative seat, my name is Kenny Ray Williams (Little Bear). My Indian name is Noosoone meaning Rain Water. I’m Cheyenne and Arapaho from the Canton community. My late parents are Kenneth and Ida Nibbs Williams.

Before coming to work for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes I worked nine and a half years for the State of Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries. I been working for the tribes seven and half years now. I worked for the Dept. of Transportation four years and I’m currently working at

George Hawkins Memorial Treatment Center as a peer recovery support specialist. I have been on the Red Road for eight and a half years.

A few of my goals include restoring the Cantonment area, creating an Elders Nutrition Center, and more activities for the youth.

Serving our Cheyenne and Arapaho people has been a privilege and honor. I believe in transparency and equal treatment to everyone. I feel I would be a good advocate for our Arapaho District 1, and all our tribal members. I would appreciate your VOTE and SUPPORT!

If you have questions I can



Kenny Williams

be reached at 405-534-0649 or by email at williamsken-ny287@yahoo.com.

### Roni Sue Allen Villeda

I, Roni Sue Allen Villeda, hereby declare my candidacy for the position of legislator for Arapaho District 1. With a profound commitment to our community and a passion for helping others, I seek to represent the voices of our community and work tirelessly for the betterment of our district. As a lifetime resident of Arapaho District 1, I have witnessed both the challenges we face and the incredible potential we hold. I believe in the power of collaboration, listening to the needs of our community and developing innovative solutions that foster growth and inclusivity. My vision is to create a

district that prioritizes our elders, education and supporting our youth as well as prioritizing the well-being of our families. I believe that a strong community is built on unity, understanding and a shared vision - a vision where every voice is heard, and every life is valued. I am dedicated to engaging with every resident advocating for transparency in our tribal government, and ensuring that all voices are heard, regardless of their background. Together, we can tackle the pressing issues of our time and pave the way for a brighter future for our families and children. I humbly ask for your sup-



Roni Sue Allen Villeda

port as I embark on this journey to serve you as your representative. Let’s come together to build a stronger Arapaho district 1. Together, we can make a difference. Thank you.

### Letisha De Leon

Hello, my name is Letisha De Leon. I am a proud member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and I carry with me the strength of my ancestors and the love of my family. My lineage is rooted in our community – my parents are Wanda Stonecalf Morgan and the late Eduardo Ruiz, and I am the granddaughter of Raymond Stonecalf and Eldine Fire Rogers. I also honor the legacy of my great-grandfather, Mr. Walter Fire, originally from Eagle City, Okla.

Family is at the heart of everything I do. I’m a devoted mother of two wonderful children – my daughter, Ariana, recently graduated from high school and my son, Jose, completed the third grade. Since 2019, I have also proudly served as

a foster parent through the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian Child Welfare program, a role that has only deepened my dedication to our youth and community.

My service to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes began in April 2015. I started in the Gaming Commission as a licensing supervisor, a position I held until 2020. I then served as the office manager for the Arapaho 3 District, gaining firsthand insight into the needs of the district. Since October 2022, I’ve been working as a projects specialist within the legislative administration office, where I’ve built a strong understanding of our legislative processes and procedures.

With nearly a decade of experience serving our tribal



Letisha De Leon

government, I am well prepared to represent Arapaho District 1. I understand the importance of transparency, advocacy and communication and I am committed to returning vital information to our people.

**Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes**

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## Arapaho District 1 Candidates:

### Robert Cheney Sr.

Hello, I would like to introduce myself. I am Robert Cheney Sr. of Longdale. I am the son of the late Hary and Adelia (Sanchez) Cheney. My maternal grandmother was Sophia Bates.

Born in Clinton, Okla., and raised in the Canton/Longdale area. I attended elementary school in Longdale and graduated from Canton High School in 1983.

Having lived ni the Canton/Longdale area nearly all my life, I have worked in the oilfield for over 40 years.

Currently, I am serving as mayor of Longdale for a year and half and previously served on the Board of Trustees for three years.

My hobbies include attending powwows, dances, hunting, fishing and spending time with my grandkids.

I am running for Arapaho District 1 legislator because our community deserves a stronger voice. I'm pas-

### Pamela Sutton

My name is Pamela Sutton and I am running for the Arapaho District 1 legislative seat. I am currently employed with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Head Start Program as the assistant director and I strongly believe in what education and the Head Start can do for tribal children and their families. I am a long time resident of Canton, Okla., and have lived in the Canton community my entire life. I recently opened my own business called NDN Pony Trading Post selling Native American products.

I am the granddaughter of the late Arapaho Chief Harry Arthur Sutton and the late Sallie Blackbear Sutton, the daughter of Nancy Ruth Sutton, the mother of three children and grandmother to one grandson. I graduated from Canton High School and then graduated from Redlands Community College with two associate degrees, and a Certificate of Mastery in Early Childhood. I am also a recent graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership. I will be returning back to Southwestern in August to enter in the master's degree program to earn my masters in managerial leadership.

Being the granddaughter of an Arapaho chief and an employee of the Head Start Program you learn to put forth the effort to do what is best for your people. I would like the opportunity to work with the people in Arapaho District 1, the tribes, and the community, to

sionate about empowering our people, who often feel overlooked and ignored. By working together, we can unlock the full potential of our AI community and create a brighter future. It's time for a leader who puts community needs above personal interests. I am committed to driving positive change and delivering tangible results. To address the pressing issue of erosion in the Cantonment area of Canton Lake, I'll work tirelessly to secure resources, collaborate with tribal and Army Corp of Engineers, and find solutions to preserve our land for future generations.

I am committed to reuniting the AI community and revitalizing community events and meals that celebrate our diversity and inclusivity. My door is always open to everyone, and I'm dedicated to listening with respect and empathy. I'll actively partici-

do what is best for our tribal elders, children, and community members. I would be interested to know what your thoughts, viewpoints, and where you see Arapaho District 1 progressing in the near future.

I feel that no matter what direction you take; the only way it will work is with communication, dedication, and hard work. I believe that if you don't communicate with the people; you are wasting everyone's time and efforts. To have successful communities requires frequent communication with tribal members as to what is happening within the tribal government, programs, and agencies. Your input is most welcome.

Next I would like to work with the local public school to make it better for the tribal children in these schools. There isn't a very good graduation rate so there must be reasons. Being a parent of former public school students, I know the struggles I have had and would like to work with the schools to make it a better place for them. We need our tribal children to graduate, to be successful, because they are our future leaders.

Job placement seems to be a problem everywhere, I would like to see workshops for the high school students and adults that teaches the things that will make them job ready and a good candidate for hire. Being from small towns, there are not many opportunities or options for success. The children are our future leaders and we need to help them succeed. I would like to part-



Robert Cheney Sr.

pate in working sessions and public hearings, ensuring the AI community's voice is heard. By seeking guidance from our elders, chief, and community members. I'll make informed decisions that benefit everyone. I invite you to visit me and share your thoughts. I "m excited to connect with new tribal members and foster a sense of community and belonging.



Pamela Sutton

ner with SWOSU and bring college or technical/trade skills to them. SWOSU has online classes and the people that would like to go to college can do it from their own town making it easier for continued growth.

I plan to have a local office so that I am accessible and available to the tribal members for any assistance, questions, or concerns so it's not a hardship on individuals to get the services needed. I would like to work on getting the people in A1 to come together for family fun nights, movie nights, learning times, and activities for the elders, young people, and adults so that they can come together to visit and have a meal. In these hard times we all need to work together.

To the voters of Arapaho District 1, talk to the candidates, weigh your options, and vote for who you think will do best for your community. As a member of this community; whoever it will be, I would like to see them work with everyone, be accessible, and do what is best for Arapaho District 1.

## Arapaho District 2 Candidates:

### Incumbent Kendricks Sleeper

Hello neito'einoo, I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health. I would like to announce my candidacy for the Arapaho District 2 legislative seat once again. I really appreciate your confidence in me in the past two elections and would appreciate your vote for me again when you cast your ballot. This will be my last four-year term if elected as your representative. It has been the highest honor, privilege, and pleasure to serve the constituents of our respected district of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe.

For those of you that may not know me, my name is Kendricks Angelo Sleeper, I am the current Speaker of the 10<sup>th</sup> Legislature. I am 46 years old. I live in El Reno

with my family. I have six children, their names are Kaylianne, D'Angelo, Rosemary, Yasmina, Sienna, and Samiya. This is where I grew up the majority of my life. I graduated high school here and also received my associate's degree from Redlands Community College in El Reno as well. I am looking forward to completing my requirements to earn my bachelor's degree soon. El Reno is where I live, work, make my home, and raise my children. Our family's roots are planted deep around the Calumet and Geary area. Even more so here around the town of El Reno now. I am an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe and I am from the Greasy Leggings clan, a band of Arapahos.



Kendricks Sleeper

Aside from being the Arapaho District 2 Legislator I am also the President of the Star-Hawk Society and Ladies Auxiliary. We, as an organization, are always happy to represent our Arapaho gourd clan and help out the best we

## Arapaho District 2 Candidates:

### Incumbent Kendricks Sleeper-continued

can when called upon.

My parents are Susan Nimsey-Sleeper and the late Angelo Sleeper Sr. My paternal grandparents are Stanley Sleeper and Pearl Tallbull-Sleeper. My maternal grandparents are Gerald Nimsey Sr. and Rosemary Hunt-Nimsey.

During my tenure as the Arapaho District 2 Legislator, I have served twice as the Speaker of the Legislative Branch. We work together and have to make choices and decisions that will benefit the future generations of our tribe. We always have the best interest of our people in mind especially the elders and children. We have endured much going through the pandemic and trying to build our tribes reputation up to good standings. We are a lot better off today than we were in the past. We have passed many laws and appropriated much money to our programs/departments. There have also been a lot of grants, contracts, and federal money approved that are distributed and helpful to our people. We have also bought a lot of property, built ERCs, childcare centers, a new HeadStart building, youth shelter, and renovated quite a few buildings. I am personally happy that we were able to build a new ERC (Emergency Response Center)/

### Leah Burrows

Tous. My name is Leah Burrows, and my Arapaho name is Hitesiiŋsei, meaning Cheyenne Woman, given to me by my grandmother Marie Spottedcorn Blind. I am the daughter of the late John Henry Harjo, a World War II Purple Heart veteran, and the late Pauline Blind Harjo, a firstgeneration college graduate and lifelong educator. I grew up in El Reno, Okla., where both of my parents worked at the Concho Boarding School.

I was raised in a close-knit community surrounded by many tribal families who came to Concho to work. From them, I learned the richness of our diverse Native cultures, traditions, and teachings. This upbringing instilled in me a respect for all people, a commitment to unity, and a deep love for our way of life.

My parents taught me faith, humility, and perseverance. My mother, a fullblood Arapaho woman, showed me the power of prayer and determination in the face of adversity. My father, through his military service and dedication to family, modeled strength, dignity, and responsibility. Their teachings remain at the heart of my leadership today.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Jurisprudence in Indian Law from the University of Tulsa College of Law. My education has prepared me to understand our Constitution, our laws, and the responsibilities of tribal governance. I have authored and presented resolutions at Tribal Council meetings, all approved, proving my ability to put forward solutions that work.

I know the struggles our people face. I have walked beside families working hard to provide for their children, care for their elders, and keep hope alive in difficult times. It is that same hope I carry into this campaign — a belief that together, we can create a future where our elders live with dignity and our children grow up proud of who they are.

As your candidate for Arapaho District 2, I am committed to:

Protecting our elders from financial exploitation and abuse, ensuring their dignity and security.

Standing with women in the workplace and community by creating safe, respect-

Community Center in Geary, Okla. The ERC currently utilizes the new building for many activities. We were also able to renovate the old community hall, and it also gets much use. I'm glad the legislature all agreed and voted to move forward with the new ERC. It is awesome to see our people be able to gather, socialize, and fellowship with one another. There will be many good memories made today and on into the future. There are so many other accomplishments we have made during my last two terms as legislator. We also built a new casino in Watonga and most recently the new 'Gasino' off the Geary exit. These have created jobs and more income to the tribe. There are so many good things to mention that outweigh the negative things that some may focus on. Over the past years I have learned to live with the negative criticism as well as the positive praise when we make decisions and choices for the tribe. I believe we could not have accomplished half the things we have if we didn't learn to work together as a team. We are not in this for personal gain or recognition, but for the betterment and benefit of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribe as a whole.

I am not a very religious person, but am spiritual and

believe in the Creator. I fall short of God's glory every day, but I try my best to treat people the way I would want people to treat me and my family, especially my children and grandchildren. We all make mistakes. We're all not perfect, but we try our best to be the people that we claim and want to be. We're still depending on the prayers that our parents, grandparents, and ancestors put down for us. We pick them up and want our children and grandchildren to do the same when we're gone. Some of us still have parents that pray for us to this day and for that I am happy and thankful.

In closing, once again I can't make any promises to anyone, but I will continue to try to do my best for our Arapaho District 2 constituents and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe to the best of my ability. There is always room for improvement. With that I am always open to suggestions, comments, and recommendations. As mentioned at the beginning of this letter I would be very thankful for your confidence in me and for your vote in this upcoming election. I appreciate your time and consideration. God bless each and every one of us from the youngest to the oldest. Hohou.



Leah Burrows

ful environments free from harassment.

Creating accountability in spending, so every tribal dollar, federal or gaming, is used wisely and transparently.

Investing in our youth with opportunities in education and employment to raise strong, ethical role models.

Ensuring fairness and integrity in tribal governance through open, accountable leadership.

I humbly ask for your support and your vote. Together, we can restore accountability, protect our most vulnerable citizens, and build a brighter future for the next generations.

### LaQuita Pinky Loneman

Beisiihi Neito'eino, Hinonoeinino, LaQuita Pinky Loneman, HisieHo3we. I am the daughter of Alton Lewis Sr. and Roberta Harrison. My hometown is Geary, Okla. My husband Kelly Loneman and I have lived out of district for 13 years before moving back to El Reno in 2016. We currently reside in El Reno along with our son Kelly Trevor Loneman. Our family, as a whole, are very active with the Arapaho cultural ways of life.

I have been employed with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes for over 20 years. My current position is a Community Health Representative with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Department of Health. I am certified by the Oklahoma Indian Health Service as well as the State

of Oklahoma. I work diligently and directly with tribal members on a daily basis. I see the daily barriers and triumphs of our people.

My education consists of being a two-time graduate and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and I attended Redlands Community College. I have been an early child education, head start center director, Indian Child Welfare lead case worker, qualified expert witness, and community health representative and an advocate for our people.

With the upcoming changes with the federal government and tribal, we will stand together, your voice will have input and be heard. I will continue to advocate for our people.

As a candidate for Arapaho District 2 Legislator, I would uphold the constitution and serve the constituents with dignity and solitaire. Reach out to me anytime, lonemanpinky@gmail.com or call 405-723-8012.



LaQuita Loneman

## Arapaho District 2 Candidates:

### Jerry C. Levi Jr.


Tous. My name is Jerry C. Levi Jr., and it is my honor to announce my candidacy for A2 Legislator. I am the son of former Tribal Chairman Jerry Levi and Margaret Levi, an educator for nearly 40 years. My grandparents were the late George Levi and Lillian Levi (nee Whitebird) of Geary. I was born in El Reno, graduated from El Reno High School and for a time when the boarding school was still in operation, lived in Concho. I served my country honorably in the United States Navy, having reached the rank of E-5 in less than two years, being awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and having done one overseas deployment in that time. I continued serving as a defense contractor in the Middle East and stateside just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Gulf War after my service time was up. For nearly 20 years I worked for two corporations, one was a Fortune 500 company. I take pride in the fact that everything I’ve ever accomplished or achieved wasn’t given to me, and that I earned them through hard work and determination and my work history allude to that. In 2022 I came to work for the Tribes and became the Office of Veterans Affairs Director in December of that year. OVA went from mainly a referral program to

one of a direct service provider in my time here. Myself, along with my staff of four, recognized the need of our veterans and met it head on. Something as simple as transporting veterans to their VA appointments or IHS has led to great success stories among our veteran population, some achieving their service-connected disability goals and overall financial and physical wellbeing. This July will be the third year in a row that we’ve had a PACT Act disability event at Concho. Some native vets don’t want to go to the VA, there’s a stigma of distrust between native service members and how some were treated while in service to their country. But they’re hurting and suffering from injuries from when they were in, and as a disabled veteran myself who knows how difficult the VA process can be, we brought the VA and their mobile exam trucks to our veterans in Concho the last three years to help them mend those wounds, both mentally and physically and its something I’m proud to have organized. In 2024, I wrote for and received a federal VA grant for Suicide Prevention, the SSG Fox SPGP, to help end veteran suicide among our warriors. Its helped OVA create a community of veterans where we’ve done hikes, fishing and golf outings that helps facilitate mental health to where our veterans know they are not alone. You can



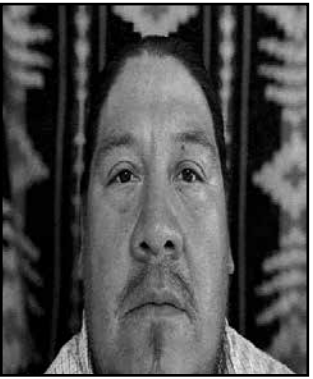
Jerry C. Levi Jr.

see our billboards along 1-40 near Clinton and by Oklahoma City. I am also a proud member of the Buddy Bond Color Guard. I am married, wife Petrina and have two grown children, Lauren and Caleb. In these uncertain times leadership is needed that can focus on the issues for the good of the people, our people. I know I have the capacity to do what’s right for the best outcome for us all, even when no one is watching. My door will always be open to discuss what can and should be done. I kindly ask for your vote and support and hope to hear from you. The western mindset asks, ‘I have rights, where are my entitlements?’ Instead, one should adopt the mindset of ‘I am born with Obligations. Obligations to serve Past, Present and Future Generations.’



Juakin Lonelodge

for the Tribes and have not for several years. I am currently employed in an industry where Indigenous people are not known to be in, but that has not stopped me from being one of the best at my location. From my industry, I understand how a business should work financially, operationally, and figuratively. I believe our Legislature Leaders should have this understanding, and it should reflect from their own personal finances. If an individual cannot handle their own personal budget then how are they to handle a budget for an entire community? I want to thank everyone for their support and urge our people to vote this election. If I am given the honor to represent our people, I want our Arapaho people to know we do not stand alone, we stand together, and I am always on call for the people, 405-476-9291.



Earl Plumley

the truck driving industry.

## Arapaho District 2 Candidates:

### Earl Plumley-continued

In 2017, I met Angela, whom I married that year. We both have family there, and so from time to time, I return to my home in Geary and visit family and friends. If elected, I will be available to the constituents that live within the Arapaho 2 District. My goal is to engage with tribal members to ensure concerns are voiced. I will stand up to politics that work against or negatively


viewing this every five years and updating the percentage to where the greatest need is. This is where community involvement comes in. Our tribal leaders need to keep the tribal members informed of what is going on in their communities. Mental health is a silent epidemic within our tribes. I feel that funding should be appropriated to help mental health issues. Addiction is all around and leads to mental health issues. We should be helping preserve our way of life for our people. Help better our people. If not federally, then tribally fund this service. Legislators should have responsibilities to the people. I’d like to encourage community service for each district representative; whether it be assisting with fundraisers, dances, powwows, student activities, elder activities, and any other type of activity to engage with our people. Be present. Although it may not happen for all districts, but I feel that all tribal leaders should have in-person working sessions in every community to better inform our people of tribal government updates. Get the communities involved with projects. Maybe even get ideas on improvements from the constituents. As a lifelong resident of this district, specifically the El Reno community, I believe that it is essential for elected officials to be accessible and responsive to their constituents. I also feel that we need more women representation to help guide our tribes from a woman’s perspective. We need compassionate leaders. Ones that will work on finding other resources that tribal services cannot. Our tribal members need to be heard. Let’s take the time to listen and consider their ideas.

Donna Sandoval

Toas, please allow me to introduce myself as a candidate for Arapaho District 2, my name is Donna Lynn Sandoval. I am the oldest child of Ruby Jean Birdshead who is a daughter of Susie Sitting Bull and Saul Birdshead Sr. I have lived in El Reno since August of 1976. I have been married to my husband Jaime Soto Sandoval for 47 years and we have four children and 13 grandchildren. We have bought our home with property several years ago. I am very involved with our Arapaho doings since a young girl. I am also in-


affected tribal members. I will provide more transparency, accountability, and open communication. I will visit with families and invite all tribal members to the community meetings and activities. I am a firm believer that our Arapaho culture is important and will survive! I will continue to assist in the preservation of our language and traditional values. Your

vote for me as the Arapaho District 2 Legislator will be most appreciated. For any questions regarding my campaign for Arapaho 2 District representative, contact me at 405-248-6119 or email me at bigsoldieriii@yahoo.com. Thank you for your time, and good luck to all individuals running in this year’s election. Hohou!



Melissa Pedro

If elected, I will put forth my maximum effort into working with our tribal government to help strengthen our communities and improve the quality of life for not only Arapaho District 2 tribal members, but for all tribal members as well. I have always been a great, outgoing, friendly person. Each day, I try to be better than I was the day before. I look forward to earning your support and vote. Thank you for your consideration. My family history: my parents are Phyllis (Garcia) Naranjo and stepfather Edwin Naranjo whom live in Utah and, my father Virgil Pedro (late) and stepmother Leah (Pratt) Brooks. I have three children, Shaylin, Richard and Delanie and my bonus son, Levi Youngbird Pedro (nephew). Through my companion Derwin, he has a total of four children, the late, Darwina Clark, Nick Lime, Desirae Harjo and our daughter Delanie Lime, between us we have 20 grandchildren and several great grandchildren. I also have 12 siblings, listed from oldest to youngest, Michelle Naranjo, Patricia Naranjo, Bubba Pedro, Truman Pedro, Anthony Pedro, Vanessa Pedro, Al Naranjo (late), Marissa Roman Nose (late), Robin Pedro, Bruce Pedro, Kevin Naranjo and Tanna Pedro.



Donna Sandoval

our upcoming elections.


### Juaquin Lonelodge

It is time for our Arapaho people to decide the future of our community. With what is going on in our present time, it is Paramount to choose wisely and to have full confidence in our leaders. Our Arapaho people need integrity, trust, and full transparency in the people we appoint for our Tribal Government. This is no easy matter, we need to do our due diligence. It is with great honor and pride, I Juakin Lonelodge have placed my name as a Candidate for Arapaho District 2 Legislator. First, I would like to wish all the Candidates good luck on their endeavors. In this time with our current US Government, we as Tribal People need leaders that will be ready for all adversities that we may face. The world around us is changing and we face more challenges than ever. We need leaders that are not afraid to stand up and represent our Nations. It is upon you, our Tribal Members, to look at your Candidates, understand who they are and what they represent. Nepotism and favoritism should not be a factor. As I live here in Arapaho District 2, every day, I see what our people must endure, our elders have had hardships, our children, like my own, have issues in school, and employment for our tribal people is scarce. Our Elders need to be taken care of, and we should have a constant program of outreach to ensure

### Earl Plumley

Hello, my name is Earl Plumley from the Rowldges family, and I am running for Arapaho 2 District Legislator. My maternal grandparents are the late Anna Rowldge and Lewis June Coker. My parents were the late Karen Coker and late Murray MedicineBird of Geary, Okla. I grew up and lived in Geary until 2012. Since 2003, I worked in the oil field, and in 2016, I received my CDL and began

working as an over-the-road truck driver. In 2012, I moved with my sons, Dyson and Dorian, to El Reno, where I assisted with coaching for the little league football team. The move became a good opportunity for both of my sons, athletically and academically. They both secured scholarships to further their education. The move also provided me the opportunity to gain more experience in



**HAVE YOU MOVED?**

**Did you change your address through the Dept. of Enrollment for your annual percapita payments? Did you change your address with the Election Commission for your voter registration? If you are an Elder, did you change your address with the Elder Care Program?**

**Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes  
405-262-0345  
Toll Free 800-247-4612**

## Arapaho District 2 Candidates: Overton Sankey

Hello, my name is Overton Sankey, better known as OT. I grew up in Canton at my home place, Barefoot. Also, at Deer Creek, I graduated from Thomas High School in 1993. My parents are the late Chief Byron Sankey and Celeste Medicine Bird. My paternal grandparents are the late Chief Warren G. and Olive Sankey. My maternal grandparents are late Chief Alfrich and Joyce Heap of Birds.

I am blessed to be married to Tracie Sankey, and together we have six wonderful children: Irene Sankey, the late Edwina Sankey, Sebastian Whiteshirt, Azha ‘Rae Richard, Phoenix Whiteshirt, and Chiloh Whiteshirt.

Today, I am honored to stand before you and announce my candidacy for Arapaho District 2 Legislator. I do so with a vision for our community that recognizes the strength and potential of every generation, our youth, our young adults, and our middle-aged citizens.

To the young people in our community: I see your energy, your creativity, and your dreams for a better fu-

ture. I know you are eager for opportunities to learn, to grow, and to make your mark on the world. If elected, I will invest in education, job training, and mentorship programs so that you have the tools you need to succeed and lead.

To our young adults: You are building careers, starting families, and shaping the future of our neighborhoods. I understand the challenges you face, affordable housing, student debt, and balancing work and family. I will work for policies that support you: creating good jobs, expanding resources, and making things more accessible.

And to our middle-aged citizens: You are the backbone of our community, working hard every day to provide for your families and give back to society. You carry the wisdom of experience and the responsibility of caring for both children and aging parents. I am committed to strengthening, improving, and ensuring that your hard work is honored.

But I also know that our community is strongest when we work together—when



Overton Sankey

generations support one another, share their knowledge, and build bridges of understanding. My vision is for a community where every generation thrives, where young people are empowered, young adults are supported, and middle-aged citizens are respected.

This campaign is about all of us, about building a future where no one is left behind. I ask for your trust, your support, and your partnership as we move forward together.

Thank you, and let’s build a brighter tomorrow for every generation.

## Cheyenne District 2 Candidates: Incumbent George Woods

Allow me to introduce myself, I am George Woods, I was raised in the El Reno and Kingfisher communities, where I still reside today. I am a proud foster parent, currently living a blessed and joyful life with three daughters and my grandson at home. My parents are the late Virginia and Robert Woods, Sr., and my grandparents are the late Myrtle and George Woods and the late Vivian and Allen Redbird, Sr. My family’s legacy and the values they instilled in me. Humility, respect, and service are what guide me every day.

Over the last eight years, I’ve stayed true to my word and worked hard to bring meaningful progress to our Nation. I’ve proudly sponsored and supported legislation that reflects the priorities of our people:

Expanding tribal Infrastructure: I supported resolutions that helped strengthen and grow the tribe’s physical and economic foundations.

Modernizing tribal government: I’ve worked with fellow legislators to pass laws that improve transparency, accountability, and efficiency in our governance systems.

Protecting Language and Culture: I championed additional funding for our Tsistsistas and Hinono’ei Language Programs to help protect our identity and ensure our culture thrives for future generations.

Supporting Elders and Veterans: I coordinated ser-

vices like yard maintenance and home support for Elders and backed programs that honor and assist our veterans.

Eneration youth and their potentialent ve supported out with geet

initiatives and community programming to ensure our children have guidance, opportunities, and cultural pride.

Employment and Opportunity: I’ve written personal recommendation letters and reached out to employers on behalf of Tribal Citizens, helping them gain meaningful employment and economic stability.

In addition to legislative duties, I’ve worked closely with various Tribal departments, supporting their missions and collaborating on goals to bring services, education, and strong sense of community to our people, both in and out of district.

My campaign isn’t just about what we’ve accomplished, it’s about where we’re headed together. If re-elected, I will continue to:

Lead in Clean Energy Development: Advocate for solar, wind, and sustainable energy solutions that honor our land while reducing costs and building long-term independence.

Build Stronger Communities: Support new housing, community spaces, and access to reliable internet and resources across all areas of our district.

Invest in Language, Culture & Wellness: Expand



George Woods

access to programs that strengthen cultural identity and foster personal growth for youth, adults, and Elders alike.

Serve All Generations: From our youngest to our oldest, I remain committed to ensuring that every Tribal Citizen is heard, supported, and empowered.

I may not be perfect, but I have led with honesty, respect, and humility. I’ve stayed grounded in the belief that every Tribal Citizen matters, whether you live right here in the district or hundreds of miles away. I’ve done my best to be accessible, responsive, and dependable.

Your vote means a great deal to me, not just as a candidate, but as a fellow Tribal Citizen who wants to continue making a difference. I’m asking for your support so we can keep our Nations strong, protect what matters most, and keep building for the next generation.

Néá’ ese (Thank you),



Max Bear

sideration and vote for your Cheyenne District 2 legislator.

## Cheyenne District 2 Candidates: Almanita Brown

Almanita Brown – Candidate for Cheyenne District 2 - Almanita Brown is a proud daughter of the late Margaret Brown and Earl Brown. Almanita is a resident of Kingfisher, Okla. As the granddaughter of the late John Antelope and Clara Tobacco of Kingfisher, she was raised with strong family values. Almanita graduated from Kingfisher High School and continued her education at Rose State College, where she earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice/Liberal Studies.

Driven by a lifelong passion for public service and advocacy, Almanita attended Langston University and later spent several decades in Atlanta, GA, where she gained valuable experience working in the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. During her time there, she also served as a steward for the Unite Here Union, helping organize airport employees and advocat-

### Shari Clayton

I would like to introduce myself, Shari Clayton, and I am running for Cheyenne District 2 legislative office. I am the daughter of the late Francis and Edwina Starr Milligan and granddaughter to the late Esther Rednose Starr. My paternal great-grandparents are Albert ‘Eating Wolf’ Rednose and Susie Bearrobe.

I have been married 17 years to Glenn Clayton Jr., son of Glenn and the late Barbara Tasso Clayton. We have one son, Marcus and four grandchildren.

I was born and raised in Kingfisher, Okla., and began my work career in 1990 with the City of Kingfisher, Library Department. I left the library in 2002 when I moved to Oklahoma City. I moved back to Kingfisher in 2007 and was a stay at home mom for several years, when

### Irene Deer

Greetings! My name is Irene Redbird Deer and I am running for Cheyenne District 2 Legislator. My parents are the late Allen and Vivian Tallbull and Redbird, my parental grandparents are the late Joseph Redbird and the late Lizzie Whitt, my maternal grandparents are the late John Tallbull and the late Mable Medicinebird Horn. I reside in Kingfisher and attended Kingfisher Public Schools. My spouse

### Roberta Hamilton

Hello my relatives and friends! I am Roberta “Bobbie” Hamilton. My mother is Ida Blackman and my father is Robert White Thunder. Our family is from the communities of Watonga and Geary. My husband, Dale Hamilton and I reside in El Reno. We have raised nine children – two daughters and seven sons. We are blessed with 12 grandchildren and a great granddaughter.

My schooling includes graduating from Watonga High School in 1977. I earned my associates of nursing degree in 1994 from Presentation College in Eagle Butte, S.D., and my bachelors of science nursing from Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, MT., in 2001. My registered nurse career has been with the Indian Health Service and Veteran’s Administration. I retired from federal service in 2016. Currently

ing for workers’ rights.

In 2013, Almanita took her commitment to service overseas on a mission trip to Côte d’Ivoire, Africa, where she inspired over 1,200 school children to pursue education and believe in their potential. Her journey came full circle when she returned to Oklahoma in 2018 to care for her mother and re-engage with her community that shaped her.

Almanita has since worked as a Victim of Crime Advocate with Social Services, a role that deepened her empathy and strengthened her resolve to serve her people. She currently works at Lucky Star Casino and recently completed Real Estate School at Burroughs Real Estate School in Oklahoma City. She is also continuing her education in Criminal Justice and Sociology at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Almanita brings a unique blend of compassion, un-

I began taking college classes. I graduated from Colorado Technical University in 2010 with an Associate of Science degree.

I started working for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in 2017 in the Dept. of Enrollment as an office clerk. In 2018 I was promoted to Research Specialist and have held that position since. I also assist with the Burial Program when needed.

While working with the tribe and talking to our people, I have heard and seen many things that I do not agree with. I am running for C2 legislative seat because I feel that we are past due for a change. We need more transparency in how our government is ran. I believe we need to go back to quarterly or semi-annual meetings to inform our tribal citizens of what the legislature and the

is Francis “Chief” Deer, we have three children and eight grandchildren. We been married for 43 years and together a total of 47 years.

I have seen a lot of needs for our tribe as well as our community. I will be having community meetings after our ceremonies for the upcoming elections. Good luck to all candidates that are running in this upcoming election.

I work with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Health as director for Pathways to Community Living.

Being raised in a chief’s family has taught me the importance of family and respect for our tribal people. My grandfather Edward White Thunder was a Cheyenne Chief and army veteran. My grandfather John Blackman was an Arapaho Chief and an army veteran. My son Damon is an army veteran as well as my husband, Dale.

I embrace the virtues of respect, service, honestly, collaboration, communication and active listening. I respect and follow our tribal traditions and customs.

As a legislature candidate, my goal is to develop a strategic action plan with the input from tribal members. The plan will be implemented throughout the



Almanita Brown

derstanding, real-world experience, and heartfelt dedication to her role as a Tribal Legislator. Her platform centers on listening to tribal citizens, promoting transparency, identifying community concerns, and advocating for meaningful, generational change.

It’s not about politics - it’s about people. Our future depends on the decisions we make today for the betterment of our Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes tomorrow.



Shari Clayton

executive offices are working on.

I would appreciate your vote and any suggestions you may have. Please feel free to reach out to me via email at shari.clayton@gmail.com or by text or calling 405-368-3315 with your comments, concerns or questions.

I look forward to hearing from youl.



Irene Deer



Roberta Hamilton

term. The framework for the plan will include developing laws/bills to be put before the legislators. Strong collaboration with the tribal members is the key to a successful implementation of a plan. I will work hard for our tribal members, locally and for our out of district members. Hahou!

## Cheyenne District 2 Candidates:

### Douglas Noear

Hello, fellow members of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes,

My name is Douglas Noear, and I am running for Legislature in the C2 District.

I have lived within the C2 District for over 25 years. I was born in Oakland, California, but I was raised across various parts of America. I’ve lived on several other reservations before coming to El Reno in 1999. I arrived with a deep understanding of the hardships Native Americans face across the country, both on and off the reservations.

I became a Sundancer at around 17 years old. I dance at Richard Movescamp’s Sundance on the Pine Ridge Reservation. I am a family man—second only to Sundancing.

I believe I am a strong candidate because I have spent the last two decades serving the people of this district quietly, behind the scenes. And I will continue to serve—whether elected or not.

If elected, I will be a candidate for the people. I will use my position to be a voice

for everyone. My office will be open 24/7 and will be a safe place for anyone who wants to voice their concerns, share their opinions, propose ideas or laws that could benefit us as a tribe, or file complaints about tribal matters.

I promise a safe environment—free from fear of being targeted or blacklisted by individuals, groups, or officials—for anyone needing help or attention to an issue.

I believe in transparency. I believe in checks and balances. I believe that the people should feel safe and confident that those they elect are treating everyone fairly and doing everything in their power to benefit the community.

I own my own remodeling company, so I understand how to plan, execute, and follow through. Most importantly, I know how to build—and that is what I plan to help do if elected: build our tribe back into one of the most powerful and respected in Oklahoma.

At the end of the day, I am stepping forward to protect our people, hold elected officials accountable, and ensure



Douglas Noear

fair treatment for all. I am here to help build a stronger future for our community.

If I have to stand alone to do it, I will. I will stand alone, fighting for every member who cannot stand and fight for themselves.

No more abuse of power. No more ignoring the people. No more stepping on the little guy. No more using these positions to benefit a select few.

That is my promise if I am elected.

I will stand by you and stand up for you. I will be the voice of every single member. And I will fight against bias and corruption.

### Melvin Roman Nose

Hello. My name is Melvin Roman Nose and I am running for Cheyenne District 2 legislator. I was born a full-blood Cheyenne at the IHS Indian Hospital near Clinton, Okla., on July 26, 1948, to Milan and Susie Roman Nose, and great-grandson to Randolph Sandhill, who helped translate the Bible to Cheyenne and Henry C. Roman Nose (Roman Nose State Park).

Academics: Watonga H.S. 1966, Haskell 1968, U.S Army 1970, Artillery, E6, honorable discharge, Cameron University 1976, OSU 1984.

Work Experience: U.S. wildland fire fighter & Surveyors helper, May-Sept 1966, Yakima, WA; Presto-lite, Inc. Welder, 1970-1971, OKC; Trigg Oil Drilling, 1873- 1973, OKC; D. Henry Engineering, Draftsman/ Surveyors helper, Lawton, OK. 1974-1976; Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Project Manager, 1977-1981; Cities Service Oil & Gas Corp., Exploration Survey, 1982-1984; OSU, Machinist Operator, 1984-1985; Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Operation & Maintenance Management, 1986-1995; Planning, Dept., Grant Writer, 1995-2004; Community Development Director, 2004-2017; Planning, Grant

Writer, 2017-2019; Retired.

I was primarily a construction project manager. I wrote over 40 construction grants, planned and developed tribal construction projects, and wrote the Environmental Assessment for each project, which provided safe and healthy floor spaces for the tribes’ direct programs and departments –the steps, or process, from start to completion.

A construction project involves finding resources and funds, planning, designing, and completing/operating. All 40 construction projects were completed on time, within Budget, and were operational the next day, without Change Orders (C.O.), with Electrical & Mechanical inspections completed, ready to occupy. In the planning phase, all the environmental concerns were mitigated, the construction contract was not signed until all funds were available, and everyone knew what to expect from the construction contract. All Change Order is a Construction Contract modification. The 40 construction projects included clinics, Head Start facilities, office buildings, and infrastructure projects, including land purchase and finding funds to purchase SAND-CREEK (1500 acres). OK



Melvin Roman Nose

state purchased the Elk City land at no cost to the tribes.

Tribal budget shall comply with the C&A Constitution

I STAND FOR: Providing food cards for C2 Tribal Members, supporting a minimum wage increase, and ensuring all meetings will be open to the public. Will support developing and contracting PL 638 (Self-Governance) to improve the Health Service for TM. Support the Energy Department in developing Energy from the Tribes’ natural resources. Support Veterans, youth, and the elderly – support training and education for the tribal worker. The Best Candidate is expected to put tribal members’ needs and wants ahead of their agenda.

### Tracie Sankey

Today, I Tracie Sankey stand before you with great humility and immense gratitude, to announce my candidacy for Cheyenne district 2 legislator.

This decision was not made lightly. It comes from my deep belief in our community and my unwavering commitment to serve you. I have listened to your concerns and, in our community and at our workplaces. I have seen both the challenges we face and the incredible potential we possess.

I am running because I believe we can do better ... together. I believe in a future where every tribal member has access to, where every family feels safe, and where

every person has the opportunity to succeed. I believe that our government needs to listen, and act with integrity, and put our people first.

If you honor me with your trust and your vote, I am willing to work tirelessly for you. I will fight for our community and people. I will listen to your voices, respect your ideas, and always put our community’s needs at the forefront.

This campaign is not just about me; it’s about all of us. It’s about building a future we can be proud of, for ourselves and for generations to come.

So in the months and days to come I ask for your support. Stand with me, work



Tracie Sankey

with me, and together, let’s shape a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you and may our Cheyenne and Arapaho people continue to thrive.

## Cheyenne District 2 Candidates:

### Milan Roman Nose

I, Milan Roman Nose Jr., am proud to announce my candidacy for Cheyenne District 2 Legislator. I am the son of Quinton and Ladonna Roman Nose of Watonga, Okla. Fraternal grandparents are the late Milan Roman Nose and Susie Sandhill Roman Nose. My maternal grandparents are Ruth Yellowman Brooks and the late Ernest Brooks. I am a direct descendant, the great, great grandson of Cheyenne Peace Chief Henry Roman Nose. Maheo has blessed me with four beautiful children, Emma, Edward, Brody, and Violent Roman Nose.

I was born and raised in Watonga until I graduated high school. I then attended Redland Community College in 1998, where I have been a resident of El Reno since I graduated with an associate’s degree in 2000. I went on to receive my bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 2007.

I have been employed with Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes since 2011. I currently work for the Tribal Historic

### Jewel Turtle

Greeting to all people of the sacred arrows (Cheyenne) and the people of the bigwaters (Arapaho).

My name is Vetcora, Jewel A. Turtle is my English name. My father was Winston Turtle Sr., born on Aug. 14, 1933. His brothers were Wayne, Billy Ralph, Nelson and Wiley Turtle. Their parents were Dorcas Birdchief and Ralph Turtle. My grandfather’s parents were “Hoping” Little Calf Turtle and Orin Turtle. Orin Turtle’s parents were John Turtle (whom was a Calvary scout that was fresh off the plains) married to Dog Woman. My grandmother Dorcas Birdchief mother was Vetcora Redwolf related to Eugene Blackbear Sr., family and were first cousins. Her father was Pete Birdchief Sr., he has a brother named Andrew Birdchief married to a northern Cheyenne last name Little Coyote in Montana. My mother Mary Angie Turtle was federally recognized tribe of the Dine. I am full blooded 4/4 American native, with my roots. I come from a chief’s family. My grandfather Ralph was a chief and my only one brother Winston Turtle Jr., holds that seat. My roots are from Kingfisher, Okla. I also have many family members in the military. I am the youngest of Winston Turtle’s children of three sisters and one brother.

I, Jewel Turtle, am a candidate for the Cheyenne District 2 Legislative office. I am humbly asking for your support in my campaign to bring positive change to our community, with confidence

### Wanda Whiteman

Hi, my name is Wanda Whiteman. I have made my home in El Reno the past 46 years. I have raised four sons, one which is now in heaven. I have helped raise many ‘bonus’ sons and daughters. I have nine grandchildren, four who I have guardianship of and the oldest graduated in 2020, and two will graduate in 2026. One grandson wants to live with me, he’s 13 years young and I’m preparing to get legal guardianship now. I attained a Master of Science degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. I am retired after 40 years of

Preservation Office. I have also worked in Treasury and Tradition Not Addiction.

I understand being the C-2 Legislator is representation for our district, meaning I have to always be at my best for our district. Being alcohol and drug free allows me to lead by example to our youth that there are different, more positive ways to live.

I will also focus on preserving our culture and ensuring our history is being taught to all tribal citizens wanting to gain such knowledge. Growing up around our ceremonies, I have been fortunate to learn many things within our culture. I will make sure every tribal citizen in distress will receive support from the C-2 offices during any emergency crisis and allow tribal citizens in our district to have their voices heard and taken into consideration, such as on how C2 funds should be allocated.

Many legislators say they want what is best for their district, but how much is the people’s opinion considered when decisions are being

and no corruption. I believe that with your help, we can ensure that our tribal laws are clear, transparent and consistently enforced for the benefit and well-being of our entire tribe. I am not a politician, I am a fellow tribal member who cares deeply about our people, our culture and our future. Many tribal members within the C-2 district need stronger legislative support to address critical needs such as employment opportunities, access to affordable housing, comprehensive health care including dental and mental behavioral health services. By working together, we can move forward as a united tribal nation, ensuring that no member is left behind as we strive to find workable solutions for all. Too many times, we’ve seen decisions made behind closed doors, promises broken, and our trust taken for granted. I believe our government should be built on respect and accountability. I do not come to you with lofty promises – I come with a commitment to listen, to speak the truth, and work ever day in the best interest of our people.

I am a single parent (mother), my daughter’s name is Shellwoman Larney. Shellwoman knows I do not display or put my self above anyone and asked if I could write her thoughts about me. She wants people to know that I am a hard worker, problem solver, efficient, kind, fast learner, compassionate, resourceful, independent, good with finances and most importantly honest. I also have an associate’s de-

employment with our Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

I am declaring my candidacy for Cheyenne District 2 legislative seat because I want to help tribal members in need, the elders that need a place to eat nutritious meals, and a place to gather maybe to exercise, and to help the homeless who need a cooling station in summer and a warming place in the winter. Tribal members who are seeking an education, transportation, rides to the complex and need a little assistance to apply for resources. I want to serve to be able to



Milan Roman Nose

made? Transparency will be used when it comes to C2 spending. I will provide more assistance for our C2 out-of-service Tribal Members.

If I should be elected, whether you vote for more or not, I will do my best for all C2 district tribal members. In closing, win or lose, like my father, Quinton Roman Nose, has shown me by his example, I will continue to impact our Tribe in a positive way. I am honored and appreciate your vote for Cheyenne District 2 legislator. Thank you.



Jewel Turtle

gree in general studies from Pueblo Community College. I have an accounting certificate from San Juan Basin Technical College and I also have my commercial driver’s license. I am currently employed with Messer Gases and haul CO2 (Carbon Dioxide). When I start something I see it through to the end. I also never put my elders in a nursing home I cared for them at home. Now that I do not have family priorities I want to help the tribe. I am not perfect, but will always be honest with you. I will not make decisions based on politics or pressure but based on what is right for our people.

If elected I will fight for fairness, for the needs of our elders and youth and for the protection of our tribal sovereignty and resources. I will always be available to hear your concerns and I will work hard to be a voice for every tribal member in our district.

Thank you for considering me as your representative. I will ask for your prayers, your guidance, and your vote.



Wanda Whiteman

help my people.

## Cheyenne District 4 Candidates: Incumbent Byron Byrd

I, Byron Byrd, am announcing my candidacy for Cheyenne District 4 legislative seat.

The past four years we’ve been working hard on getting our new travel center up and running, getting the Elk City property placed into trust and the purchase of the ranch to name a new. We started this journey during my second term getting major projects done following the pandemic and shutdown of not only the nation’s economy, but our tribes’ economy. I’ve shown countless times through my leadership and this administration that our tribe is here and turning a new leaf in the way we do business. I was here throughout darkest times when the tribes were shut down and trying to survive during the national pandemic. I did what I could helping helping my district with rations and providing firewood for the people in need. I feel like there is more

I can accomplish for my district if re-elected. To me and my heart, that’s who I am as a leader, speaking up for my district, praying for all our people and being in the community everyday living amongst our people. It’s made my heart full knowing our ancestors prayed for us to still be here today and legislator or not, I’ll always help when needed and be here for my people. I am proud of the accomplishments from the smallest to the biggest that the tribes made while I’ve been in office. These accomplishments have moved our tribes forward in a positive direction. I want to thank all of my friends, family and loved ones for being such a great support system. This is only the beginning of the great things that the tribes is going to accomplish. To my past two administrations, thank you for believing in me and trusting he vision we have for the tribes. We still



Byron Byrd

have so much more work to do. Probably one of our most important elections in recent memory with continuing moving forward with developing our Elk City property, creating a community center for our El City constituents and moving forward as a tribe. Stability is key! Whether I’m re-elected or not, I will still be here in my district to support our people and help whenever needed. Nea’ese – Thank you!

## Alexandria Anderson-Stevens

Hello Cheyenne District 4, my name is Alexandria Anderson-Stevens, daughter of the late Manfred Kaulaity and Esther Wood Kaulaity. Granddaughter of the late John and May Wood my paternal great grandparents are Ben and Nina (Antelope) Wood, Raphael and Loving-Mary Romero.

My family and I moved to Elk City in 2007 from Anadarko, Okla. My husband and I have four daughters and six wonderful grandchildren. I began working at the Great Plains Regional Medical Center, then working for the Cheyenne and

Arapaho Tribes in different areas such as surveillance, CHR and currently with the EMS as a public health aid/transport driver.

I am running for Cheyenne District 4 because I feel there is a need for change. My priorities are to serve all people in my district and to treat everyone equally, respectfully and be transparent. I will be open to any suggestions or problems that you may have, this will also help me to see what needs to be done.

I wish all candidates good luck, if you have any questions please feel free to con-



Alexandria Anderson-Stevens

tact me at 580-819-3258.

## Tiffany Bullcoming

Hello, my name is Tiffany Bullcoming, and I am formally announcing my candidacy for Cheyenne District 4. I am from Hammon and currently live there. I have four sons and a little brother. They are Kellyn BullComing, Kingston BullComing, Dru BullComing, Kassius BullComing, and Kenneth Pewo Jr. They all attend

Hammon Public Schools. My parents are Wilbur and Edwina BullComing. My paternal Grandparents are the late Donald BullComing Sr. and the late Esther Seger. My maternal grandparents are the late Edwin Pewo and Margie Pewo.

I would appreciate your vote at this election time. Thank you!



Tiffany Bullcoming

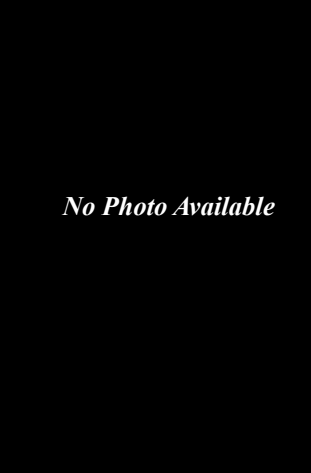
## Ruth Ann Standingwater Costilla

My name is Ruth Ann Standingwater Costilla and I was born in Elk City, Okla., to Samuel Standingwater and Elaine Miles Bird. I was raised in Hammon, Okla.

My grandparents were John Miles and Minnie Whiteman Miles. My paternal grandparents were Sam Standingwater and Jose-

phine Whitecrane.

I have chosen this path in my life to be a voice for all enrolled members in Cheyenne 4 district. As a public servant it is very crucial to display communication, honesty, commitment and transparency to all enrolled members in the Cheyenne 4 district, native pride!



No Photo Available

## Thurman Starr

Hello! My name is Thurman Starr, a Cheyenne Chief. I reside in Hammon, Oklahoma. I have lived here most of my life.

The reason I decided to run for Cheyenne District 4 Legislator is to be the voice for our people, not just in my district, but for all other districts. So, I am asking for your vote on October 7 for a change. I’m asking you

to give me a chance to help make new ideas and help the tribe move forward.

I am asking Cheyenne District 4 voters to give me a chance and help me do my best to represent all my people.

My parents are the late Frank (Toby) Starr and Christine Fingernail Starr. Your vote would be appreciated. Thank you.



Thurman Starr

## Cheyenne District 4 Candidates: John Paul Hoffman

Hello my fellow community members, neighbors, friends and family.

My name is John Hoffman and I am honored to come before you to announce my candidacy for the Cheyenne District 4 Legislator. I envision a community where every person matters and I will work towards building a strong Cheyenne community through dedicated hard work, communication among our people and advocacy for better services in the Cheyenne District 4 community.

I am the Great grandson of the late Albert Archie Hoffman and Vinnie WhiteEagle Hoffman, Grandson of the late Fred Buster Hoffman and Kathryn Youngbull Hoffman. My father is the late John Tyler Hoffman and mother Pauline Cheromiah Hoffman. The Hoffman family has worked for our Cheyenne and Arapaho people many years’, as my grandfather Fred held positions as Chairman of the C&A Tribes and within the business committee. The Hoffman’s were raised within the Native American Church.

Although I was not raised in Hammon, Oklahoma, I’ve kept close ties with my family since I was a toddler. I was born in Oakland, California and raised in Farmington, New Mexico. I moved to Bethel, Alaska at the age of

18 and worked ground crew for a small aviation company servicing villages along the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. I joined the Marine Corps in 1992 and served until 1996, where my MOS was 0431 logistics/embarkation. I attended Marine Corps recruit depot in San Diego, California. My first duty station was in Okinawa, Japan for 2 ½ years with the III Marine Division, Combat Assault Battalion, Camp Schwab. I then served with the III Marine Air Wing, MCAS El Toro, California.

After my military service, I moved to Hammon Oklahoma and lived with my grandmother, Kathryn and attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University for 2 years. I attended Rose State College where I studied in their Legal Assistant program.

I married, started a family and have a beautiful daughter, Kayla Hoffman. During this time, I began my federal career with the Indian Health Service in Dallas, Texas with the Division of Engineering Services as a Procurement Technician for 2 years. I accepted a position with the IHS Lawton Service Unit as a Purchasing Agent for 2 ½ years. Then I secured a position within the IHS Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland as a Grants Management Specialist. I



John Paul Hoffman

have worked extensively with tribes throughout Indian Country managing an annual portfolio of \$75 million in federal funding for various programs like the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI), Epidemiology (EPI), Tribal Self Governance (TSGP) and Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention (MSPI). I retired from federal service in April 2025 after 27 years of service.

I believe in integrity and transparency with good morals and values. I will represent the Cheyenne 4 district with dedicated passion to ensure our people are heard and the community concerns are addressed.

I look forward to being the Cheyenne 4 District Legislature. Ha Hou!

## Amelia Beaver Waters

My name is Amelia (Beaver) Waters and I am running for the Cheyenne District 4 legislative seat.

I am the proud granddaughter of Fred Hoffman and Kathryn Hoffman, as well as Amos Beaver Jr., and Ida Hoffman. First and foremost, I want to thank Maheo for the opportunity to serve the people and communities of the C4 District. Throughout my life I have been

guided by the values of patience, kindness, endurance, and most importantly faith. These life experiences have shaped who I am and how I lead. If given the honor to lead, I will make it my mission to ensure every voice is heard, from our respected elders to our youngest child. I humbly ask for your support so that together, we can walk this path of progress, unity, and cultural strength.



Amelia Beaver Waters

## Mariah Youngbull

My name is Mariah Youngbull and I am honored to officially announce my candidacy for Cheyenne District 4 Legislator. I believe it’s time for new energy, new ideas and a renewed commitment to listening to and working alongside our people. It’s time for leadership that reflects the values of our community – and I’m ready to be that leader.

I am the daughter of Pollie (Pewo) and John Goodman, and the granddaughter of Margie (Belt) Pewo and the late Chief Edwin Pewo. I’m a graduate of Hammon High School and have proudly called Elk City home since 2012. I am a wife, a mother, and a dedicated member of our community – values that guide every decision I make.

Professionally, I’m a licensed realtor in the state of Oklahoma. In this role, I’ve helped numerous Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal members – and members of other tribes – achieve the dream of homeownership. I’ve worked closely with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Housing Authority on Acquisition Projects and have guided many families through our Down

Payment Assistance Program. This work has given me a front-row seat to the needs of our people – and the determination and insight to do more.

I believe Cheyenne District 4 is ready for a change – one that brings our tribal members back into the conversation. Too many of our people feel unheard, uninformed, or disconnected from tribal decision-making. I want to bridge that gap by improving communication, increasing transparency, and encouraging community involvement in every corner of our district. I will be a leader who listens – and acts – with the best interest of our families, elders, youth, and future generations in mind.

As a mother, I’m especially passionate about education, youth programs, and the opportunities we create for our next generation. I believe our youth should have access to cultural resources, leadership development, and strong education system that keep them rooted in who they are while preparing them for the future. As legislator, I will advocate for resources and partnerships that help



Mariah Youngbull

our young people succeed both inside and outside the classroom.

I’m not running just to hold a seat – I’m running to make a difference. I’m committed to bring accessible, accountable, and active in all communities within District 4. My promise is to work hard, communicate openly, and always prioritize the wellbeing of our people.

With humility and purpose, I ask for your support and your vote to be your next Cheyenne District 4 Legislator. Together, we can strengthen our community, uplift our voices and create lasting change.

Gina Aranda

(580)302-0752

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

## OFFICE OF TRIBAL COUNCIL CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS FOR ANNUAL TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday October 4, 2025 @ 10:00 am  
Respect Gym, Concho, OK

In accordance with the Constitution of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, pursuant to Article V, Section 4 (c) Procedures: The Coordinator shall accept proposed Resolutions at least thirty days before each Annual Meeting or Special Meeting of the Tribal Council.

**Resolutions are being accepted for the Annual Tribal Council Meeting to be held October 4, 2025. Please contact my office if you would like a Resolution template sent to you**

**Deadline: August 29, 2025**

**Please contact my office with any questions:**

Albert Old Crow  
Tribal Council Coordinator  
Office Phone: 405-422-7430  
Cell Phone: 405-437-5269  
Email: [aoldcrow@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.org](mailto:aoldcrow@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.org)

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## OFFICE OF TRIBAL COUNCIL CALL FOR APPLICANTS For TRIBAL COUNCIL COORDINATOR

Saturday October 4, 2025 @ 10:00 am  
Respect Gym, Concho, OK

In accordance with the Constitution of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, pursuant to Article V, Section 5 (b) Office of Tribal Council: Members of the Tribes interested in serving in the position of Coordinator shall submit an application at least thirty days prior to the Tribal Council Meeting.

**Please submit a personnel application, picture and short biography for this position. Submit to the Personnel Department - Deadline: August 29, 2025**

**Please contact my office with any questions:**

Albert Old Crow  
Tribal Council Coordinator  
Office Phone: 405-422-7430  
Cell Phone: 405-437-5269  
Email: [aoldcrow@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.org](mailto:aoldcrow@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.org)