

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

CULTURAL CENTER pg. 4

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Triage, in medical terms, is a process used to prioritize who needs emergency medical attention first. Those that are deemed 'savable.' Under the guise of efficiency, the VA has said that they have amassed over 300,000 claims by veterans in the last 8 months. No mention of how reduced staffing will accomplish the task of going over evidence, decisions on claims, etc. and early reports are that Denials without asking for evidence are on the rise and even if 30% of these claims were approved, does the VA have the medical staff to render care? Centuries have shown that marginalized groups such as native americans have suffered in great numbers in this country and if the VA is even in a silent triage behind the scenes while trying to render long term care under this Trump administration, it would be of no great surprise to find out that tribal veterans, who have the highest levels of service per capita among all races, would suffer the most long term.

Changing the lives of children: Canadian County CASA presents award to Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes ICW caseworker

Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

Providing hope for children who don't have a voice in the welfare system, CASA has dedicated special advocates who are making a difference in the lives of children. Acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates, CASA provides an opportunity for children navigating through the child welfare system to be represented according to their best interests and improving their overall well-being.

Giving recognition to the caseworkers and CASA volunteers that work tirelessly to advocate for youth in the welfare system, CASA presented five awards to individuals who exemplified what it truly means to speak up for children when they have no voice. With the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Indian Child Welfare (ICW), Bridget Blackowl, caseworker, was among the individuals nominated for the Service Provider of the Year Award.

As part of their mission, CASA trains community volunteers to serve as advocates and represent abused and neglected children, who are wards of the court system due to being removed from homes and have been placed in child welfare or the foster care system.

"Advocates get to know these kids, they have a court order that allows them to talk to anyone in their lives, including teachers, doctors, therapists, attorneys, and then be able to advocate for them in court for the children's best interests. Our whole program is there to ensure the best interests of these children are being met," Dana Lutz, executive director for Canadian County CASA said.

Located in El Reno, Okla., Canadian County CASA is one of 19 programs in the state of Oklahoma. The program adheres to state standards set by the Oklahoma CASA Association and the National CASA Association.

With a staff of three, Canadian County CASA staff include two advocate supervisors, Makenna Bray and Whitney Bruton, and Dana Lutz as the executive director.

Advocates spend their time with children, getting to know them and ultimately becoming their mentors and voice in court and build relationships, Lutz said as CASA is considered a volunteer organization, providing advocacy for children.

Volunteers for CASA undergo requirements before even being put on a case, such as background checks, references, 30 hours of training and sitting in on a court observation. Volunteers are then sworn in by the judge and appointed to a juvenile deprived case, which could be one individual or a group of siblings.

Volunteers are then required to visit children in their respective home, if it's a foster home, shelter, or group home on a monthly basis and get to know them.

"Make sure that that child knows that they have someone that's going to visit them throughout their time in the child welfare system. It can be such a confusing and hard time

and there's so many service provider changes, DHS changes," Lutz said.

Lutz said the average child moves homes three to five different times. Some of the challenges children face with changes are constantly having new teachers, new foster parents and CASA's role is to stay with children throughout that time.

"Provide them some consistency, as well as make sure we can show up to court and say, 'hey these children's needs are falling through the cracks, whether it's educational needs, medical, mental health, or any physical needs,'" Lutz said.

CASA held their Third Annual Canadian County CASA Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Aug. 26, to recognize CASA volunteers for their work as well as a presentation of awards for the volunteers who have gone above and beyond in their duties.

"All the hard work that our volunteers do really just needs to be recognized and told to the world. But also, to let them know that they've done such amazing work and put in so much time to invest in the kids of our community," Lutz said.

On average, 350 children are in the child welfare system in Canadian County and the CASA program serves about a third of the children, Lutz said as CASA strives to be their voice.

"Our annual award ceremony and banquet is an opportunity to recognize these volunteers and share the work that they do," Lutz said.

Five different awards were presented from CASA, including the Service Provider of the Year Award, Caseworker of the Year Award, which are nominated and voted on by staff members and volunteers that are serving cases based on experience.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Citizen, Bridget Blackowl was nominated for the Service Provider of the Year Award, for providing a service and going above and beyond on the cases she served as a caseworker for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Indian Child Welfare.

Advocate Supervisor for Canadian County CASA, Makenna Bray had become well-acquainted with Blackowl as she got to work alongside her in cases, describing her as encouraging, caring and very soft spoken.

"But really steps up and speaks when she knows the Tribes have a great resources or service that would benefit the child or children on a case," Bray said.

Blackowl had helped assist with a case involving a minor needing placement, as CASA had been advocating for the child to be released from a facility and into a more suitable placement that would be beneficial. Within 30 days, Blackowl was able to find a placement for the child in a tribal group home.

"Bridget was able to get them in there so quickly and advocate for them and they've never gone back to that facility. They are ac-

tually now in a foster home ... but because of her, we got them out of that facility and that was the best thing for their mental health and just for them to even just learn to be a kid again," Bray said.

During the awards banquet as Blackowl was called upon the stage to receive her award, Whitney Bruton, advocate supervisor, said CASA volunteers work with a variety of individuals, not just DHS caseworkers but with attorneys, teachers, therapists and tribal workers.

"Bridget has shown what it truly means to serve children and families with dedication, perseverance and heart, as a child welfare worker for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Bridget stands as a fierce advocate for the best interests of the children while honoring the traditions and strengths of their community," Bruton said as Blackowl was presented with the Service Provider of the Year Award.

While working for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes ICW for over a year, Blackowl has also served as secretary for the Southern Plains Child Protection Team.

"It's truly an honor to be recognized and humbling to receive an award for the work that we do, I just really enjoy working for my tribe, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, as an ICW caseworker, I am glad to serve our tribal community and families, all of my family, especially my son, who are my biggest supporters and motivators," Blackowl said.

Other awards presented during the banquet were the Biggest Heart Award, CASA Clutch Award and the CASA of the Year Award.

Recognizing the many volunteers of CASA for their continued efforts in advocating for children in the welfare system, Lutz said it takes very dedicated people with big hearts to take on the role as a volunteer as they deal with children that have been through abuse and neglect.

"It takes a lot of patience, a lot of dedication and really just a heart for the kids to stick with them as they are going through the hardest time of their lives," Lutz said.



Dana Lutz, executive director for Canadian County CASA presents Bridget Blackowl, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes ICW caseworker with the Service Provider of the Year Award at the third annual Canadian County CASA banquet and awards ceremony. (Photos / Latoya Lonelodge)



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Indian Child Welfare staff attend to support Blackowl during the presentation of the Service Provider of the Year Award.

Pictured l-r: Irene Sankey, Bridget Blackowl and Cornelia Vann.

For the future of CASA, Lutz said the program hopes to continue to grow and get more volunteers. On average, CASA serves a quarter to a third of the cases in the area.

"Last year we served 120 kids, and 18% of those are tribal children, right now we only have 4% of tribal volunteers, so we would always love more volunteers from the tribe to step up and really help their community to make sure to provide the best advocacy possible," Lutz said.



Mustang JOM Students Shine at Western Days Parade

The Mustang Johnson O'Malley (JOM) students proudly represent their community during the Western Days Parade in downtown Mustang, Oklahoma, showcasing their tribal regalia as they joined the procession.

For the second year in a row, the Mustang JOM float earned second place in the student category.

Among the participants were Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal students Nina Reed (10), Juliana Reed (8), and Livy Wilkinson (11). Recently, Nina was crowned Miss Confined Intertribal Group (C.I.T.G.) Princess, while Juliana earned the title of Jr. Miss C.I.T.G. Princess. Nina and Juliana are the daughters of Angel and Galen Reed, and Livy is the daughter of Jennifer Bailey, who also serves as vice chair of the Mustang JOM Parent Committee and vice chair of the Mustang Public Schools Indian Education Committee.



Documentary highlights Colorado River Crisis with Indigenous Narration by Quannah Chasinghorse

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

After inviting Quannah Chasinghorse to consider the role of narrator, the producers of “The American Southwest” sent her a rough draft of the film. Ten minutes in, she was sold.

“It was so beautiful, so well done,” she said. “Being asked to narrate this film, to lend my voice to the Colorado River, its tributaries, the life it nourishes, and the people who have stewarded it for generations, is such a huge honor.”

The doumentary by Ben Masters was produced with the help of Len Necefer and Natives Outdoors. It’s a journey down the Colorado River that showcases the region’s abundant wildlife, confronts the ecological impacts of dams and river depletion and advocates for enhanced water and wildlife conversation.

“Natives Outdoors helped develop the story structure, conduct cinematography, refine the script and ensure respectful representation of petroglyphs and cultural sites,” Masters said.

“Quannah and the Native Outdoors team elevated ‘The American Southwest’ beyond what I could have accomplished on my own, and I am forever grateful for their collaboration and trust,” Masters said.

Created by Necefer in 2017, Natives Outdoors is



a Native-owned media and consulting company that cultivates the talent of indigenous communities. It works with tribal governments and community organizations to increase access to outdoor recreation. Necefer is Dine.

Chasinghorse is a Han Gwich’in and Sicangu/Oglala Lakota land protector and environmental advocate from Eagle Village, Alaska, who was born on the Navajo Nation.

“Those two places, Alaska and Arizona, have my heart,” Chasinghorse said. “I already have a connection there. It just felt right. It definitely needed someone who was indigenous to the United

States to make sure it is authentic.”

Necefer said one of the biggest challenges “was figuring out how to integrate Indigenous perspectives into the film’s core, rather than as a footnote. We wanted Indigenous knowledge and worldview to be foundational.”

Necefer said he worked with the Bears Ears Intertribal Coalition, the Navajo Nation Film Office and Native academics and knowledge-holders “to guide our approach to story, land and protocol.”

The movie opened Sept. 4-5 in theaters across the country and will be available for streaming on Oct. 10 on

all major digital platforms including Amazon and Apple TV.

Chasinghorse said she met a number of tribal chairmen during her work on the film.

“They really felt that this film was very needed,” she said. “They felt very thankful that they were included, that we are being represented in a way that is true, and not in a stereotypical way.”

Chasinghorse is a model who was cast in a Calvin Klein campaign at age 18, and since then has worked with top global fashion houses and appeared on numerous

DOCUMENTARY pg. 4

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For immediate release

September 5, 2025

Election Commission Absentee Ballot Notice Update

AS OF TODAY, SEPT. 5, 2025, 19 BALLOT REQUESTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO UPDATE ADDRESSES AND BE ISSUED A BALLOT. ALTHOUGH WE ARE TAKING ADDRESS UPDATES TO VOTER REGISTRATIONS, WE ARE NOT ADDING ANY NEW VOTERS. WE ARE ONLY MAKING AN EFFORT TO ENSURE EVERY REGISTERED VOTER THAT WANTS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, WILL RECEIVE ONE.

WITH OUR UPDATED DATABASE, WE ARE ABLE TO LOOK DIRECTLY THROUGH OUR BALLOTING COMPANY'S ACCESS TO USPS RECEIPTS AND SEE WHO HAS RECEIVED THEIR BALLOT AT THE CURRENT ADDRESS ON FILE WITH THE ELECTION COMMISSION. PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE @ 405-422-7619, IF ANY VOTER WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT AT THEIR CURRENT ADDRESS.

Good luck to all the candidates in the Primary Election held on
OCTOBER 7, 2025!!!!

Kenny Ray Williams - Candidate for Arapaho District 1 Legislator

Habá, Tous, Hello, I'm running for the Arapaho District 1 legislative seat, my name is Kenny Ray Williams (Little Bear). My Indian name is Noosone 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 be reached at 405-534-0649 or by email at williamskenny287@yahoo.com.

Rosemary Stephens, Editor-in-Chief
405-422-7446 / rmstephens@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

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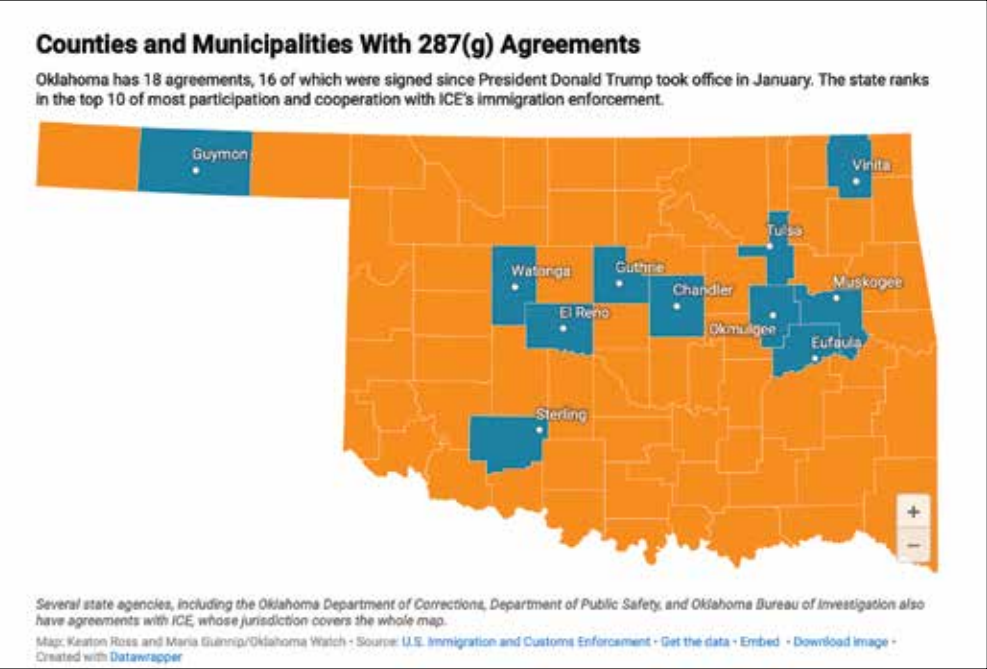
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Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter/Ad Executive
405-422-7608 / llonelodge@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

Oklahoma Among Top States in ICE Partnership Agreements



Oklahoma has quickly become one of the nation’s leaders in partnering with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) under its controversial 287(g) program, which deputizes local law enforcement to enforce federal immigration laws.

Since President Donald Trump returned to office in January, 16 of the state’s 18 agreements have been signed, placing Oklahoma in the top 10 states for participation. Nationwide, the number of agreements has more than doubled, with Florida leading at more than 250.

The 287(g) program, created under the Immigration and Nationality Act, allows trained local officers to question, detain and process people for suspected immigration violations. Agencies may choose different models, including the Jail Enforcement Model (JEM), which focuses on inmates already in custody, and the

Task Force Model (TFM), which authorizes patrol officers to investigate immigration status during routine policing.

In Canadian County, the sheriff’s office has a jail model agreement, while smaller towns such as Sterling, Fletcher and Vinita have adopted task force agreements. Sterling Police Chief Brad Alexander has enrolled his entire force, describing the move as “a patriotic duty” and a way to combat crime and human trafficking. Vinita’s Chief Mark Johnson said training through ICE gives his small staff more tools.

Not all local leaders share that enthusiasm. Fletcher Police Chief Jason DeLonais signed an agreement but is proceeding cautiously, training only himself for now. Eufaula Police Chief David Bryning went further, deciding to cancel after initially signing, saying the contract offered little benefit for his town of 2,700.

The agreements have sparked concern among immigration attorneys and advocates, who warn the partnerships increase detentions and risk constitutional violations. Oklahoma City attorney Lorena Rivas said her office has seen a spike in local cases since January. “Now they make sure and contact ICE for every individual who happens to be taken into custody in their jurisdiction,” she said. “Every time ICE is made aware of somebody, they will go and pick them up.”

Critics point out that the Obama administration ended task force agreements more than a decade ago after investigations found the program ineffective and prone to racial profiling. Trump’s administration has revived and expanded the partnerships as part of his push for mass deportations, and Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt has

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Quannah Chasinghorse

DOCUMENTARY

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magazine covers. Despite her success in fashion, she says, her most meaningful work is using her platform to uplift indigenous values, voices and communities.

Essential to the artistry of the film is the original score by Los Angeles-based composer Noah Sorota. A veteran of film, television and game scoring, Noah also composes for the concert hall and has conducted orchestras at London’s Abbey Road Studios. The score for the documentary was performed by the Prague Symphony Orchestra.

The documentary follows two storylines, says Masters, a Texas native whose Fin and Fur Films specializes in wildlife and adventure storytelling.

“The first traces the Colorado River’s journey from its headwaters to the sea. The second explores the evolving human relationship with the river and its wildlife, beginning thousands of years ago and continuing into the present day. These stories are told through the lives of the Southwest’s most charismat-

ic characters and spectacular ecological events, such as beavers building wetlands, salmon flies nourishing the river ecosystem and condors soaring to recovery.”

People who want to help conserve and restore the landscape can live by the simple Indigenous principle, “don’t take more than you need,” Chasinghorse said of the Southwest, which is facing a water crisis and biodiversity loss as the region becomes hotter and drier.

“All the states are taking way more water than is necessary. It’s causing the Colorado to die. It’s dying because it doesn’t even reach the ocean anymore. It doesn’t flow freely the way it should.”

In every region of the United States, Chasinghorse said, “there are groups within these tribes that their work is solely to tackle a lot of these issues and find solutions. When we do listen to the Indigenous stewards from these regions, the only thing that will come out of it is good.

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Mosqueda said he hopes the embassy “would pull all the tribes together that had a history in Colorado.”

He said he envisions increased collaboration between tribal leaders and Colorado’s elected officials, and he has hopes that a representative of the tribes will someday hold a chair in the state legislature.

Denver Mayor Mike Johnston said he would like to see the cultural embassy support urban Natives with cultural programming.

Many Native Americans ended up back in Colorado, especially in Denver, due to the urban relocation programs of the 1960s, Mosqueda said.

“That wiped out the Indian in a lot of them,” he said.

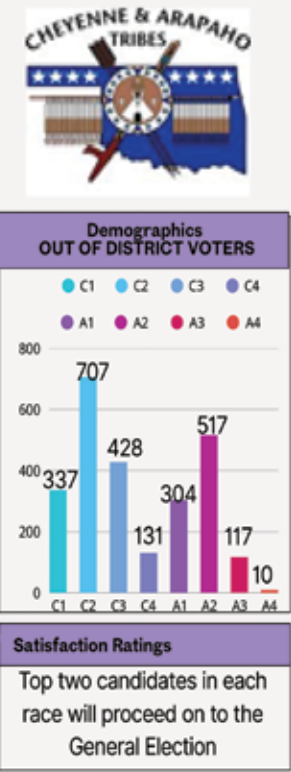
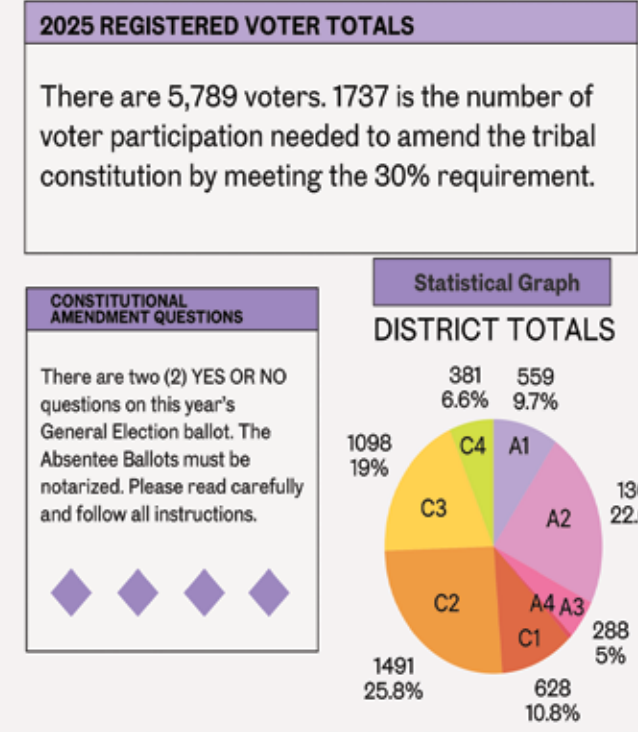
“It is very important for the urban Indians to be able to reconnect to their tribes and their people, to learn their customs,” said Mosqueda, who grew up in Canton and was raised with traditional ways.

Wassana said he envisions the embassy as a hub for education “in our traditional medicines, our languages, our songs, our dances, our ceremonies, in how we took care of one another.”

Wassana is enthused about the embassy’s business and industry possibilities.

“We definitely would like to go into business in Colorado, maybe an AI business, maybe manufacturing, maybe tourism. There would be a business incubator in the embassy. We would love to be part of our cultural homelands,” Wassana said.

ELECTION COMMISSION



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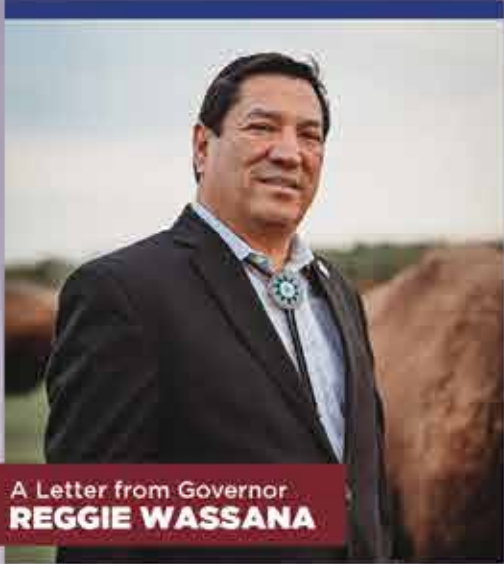
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Letters to the CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO PEOPLE!



A Letter from Governor
REGGIE WASSANA

Dear Cheyenne and Arapaho Citizens,

Eight years ago, you entrusted me with the honor of serving as your Governor. Together, we have walked a path of progress, resilience, and renewal. We have faced challenges, but we have also celebrated historic accomplishments. Through it all, I have been guided by a single principle: to protect the sovereignty of our Nations and to build a stronger future for every citizen.

Every decision I have made, every mile I have traveled, and every word I have spoken on behalf of our people has been guided by the lessons of our elders, the strength of our veterans, the dreams of our youth, and the sacred responsibility to protect our sovereignty.

Our elders remind us of who we are. They carry the traditions, languages, and stories that connect us to generations past. I have worked to ensure those teachings remain alive, not only through programs of preservation, but by making sure every decision honors the wisdom of those who came before us.

Our veterans inspire us. They put on the uniform and carried our Tribal pride into battlefields across the world. We have expanded support for our veterans because their courage must always be met with our gratitude.

Our youth give us hope. Their energy, their vision, and their desire to learn tell me that our future is strong. From strengthening education to expanding cultural opportunities, I will continue to fight for every young person to know who they are, and to know they can succeed without leaving behind their Tribal identity.

And through economic development, we are building a foundation that allows every family to stand taller. Clean financial audits, new businesses, stronger per capita distributions — these are not just numbers. They are food on the table, roofs over heads, and opportunities for our children to thrive.

During these past eight years, we have restored stability to our government, achieved financial accountability with clean audits, and expanded opportunities for our people. We have strengthened education and cultural preservation, increased per capita distributions, and invested in economic development projects that secure long-term prosperity. Most importantly, we have worked to restore trust in our leadership by practicing transparency and accountability at every step.

This work has not been mine alone—it belongs to all of us—every family who calls our Tribal Nations home.

As I seek re-election, I do so with a promise to keep moving us forward — with unity, with accountability, and with love for our people. There is more to be done. We must keep expanding educational opportunities, advancing healthcare access, supporting our veterans, creating jobs, preserving and expanding our elder care programs and ensuring that our sovereignty is never compromised.

Together, we can ensure that our culture and our prosperity will endure for generations to come.

I humbly ask for your support and your vote for another term as your Governor.

Reggie Wassana

Dear Cheyenne and Arapaho Citizens,

In January 2024, I was called to step into the role of Lieutenant Governor after the passing of our respected Lt. Governor Gib Miles. His loss was felt deeply across our Tribes. He was a leader, a mentor, and a friend whose wisdom, humility, and compassion left an everlasting mark on our people.

I accepted this responsibility with both humility and gratitude, knowing the shoes I was asked to fill were great ones. Every day since, I have hoped to honor his memory by serving with the same heart for the people that he showed throughout his life. I pray that my work makes him proud and carries forward the vision he had for our Nations. I also accepted this responsibility with a deep sense of duty — to our ancestors, to our veterans, to our families, and to the generations yet to come.

As an Arapaho elder and a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, I bring with me the lessons of service, discipline, and sacrifice. My years as a Captain in the United States Army taught me the meaning of standing firm in the face of challenge — a lesson I now carry into every decision made on behalf of our citizens.

Since joining the administration, I have worked alongside Governor Wassana to continue building on the historic progress of the past eight years — restoring stability, strengthening sovereignty, supporting veterans, creating opportunities for youth, and driving economic growth. These achievements belong to all of us, carried forward on the foundation laid by leaders like Gib Miles.

Together, we have restored trust and pride in our leadership. These successes reflect the strength of our people — from the elders who keep us grounded, to the families who carry our communities forward, to the youth who carry the fire of tomorrow (or stand ready to lead the next generation), and to the veterans whose courage reminds us of who we are.

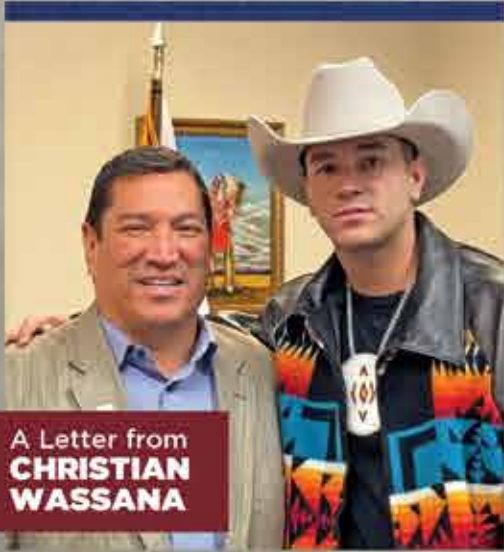
As I humbly seek re-election, I do so not for myself, but for the future of the Cheyenne and Arapaho people and a promise to serve with integrity, transparency, and respect. With your continued support, Governor Wassana and I will keep building a stronger, united, and sovereign Nation.

I am deeply grateful for your trust, and I dedicate this service to you, to our ancestors, and to the memory of Lt. Governor Gib Miles.

With respect and gratitude,

Hershel Gorham

Lt. Governor Hershel Gorham
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



A Letter from
CHRISTIAN WASSANA

Dear Cheyenne and Arapaho Citizens,

I want to express how proud I am of my father, Governor Reggie Wassana and the work he has done for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes over the past eight years. Under his leadership, we have seen real progress—stronger programs for our people, opportunities for our youth, and a vision for the future that honors our traditions while moving us forward.

Throughout his time in office, he has worked tirelessly to create jobs, build infrastructure, and make sure the voices of our tribes are heard at the national level. His dedication has brought resources and opportunities that continue to benefit our people today and will for generations to come.

Watching him work with such determination and a good heart has inspired me in my own personal journey. It taught me the importance of resilience, of standing firm in your values, and of serving others with integrity and compassion.

After eight years of progress, dedication, and results, I believe the path he has set is working. As the saying goes, when something isn't broken, there's no need to fix it. Our tribes have come a long way under his leadership, and there is still more good ahead with him continuing to serve as Governor.

Join me in voting for continued progress—Wassana Gorham.

Sincerely,

Christian Wassana

Christian Wassana
Owner/Founder of I Am, I Can, I Will
Proud son of Gov. Reggie Wassana

\$ BIGGER PER CAPS. \$ \$ STRONGER FUTURE. \$

For far too long, many questioned where our money was going, with no answers. Now, it is time for forensic audits and strict financial accountability, protecting the Tribe’s assets so our funds have the greatest benefit to all our citizens. Then, we can proudly say:

- **More oversight, less waste** – With every dollar carefully managed and strategically invested in programs and activities that benefit our Tribal members and traditions.
- **Financial transparency** – Open books, honest reporting. It is essential that all our people know where our money is going. Reports will be made available monthly, and in-person meetings will be held quarterly.
- **Responsible growth** – Make sure that revenues from the Lucky Star Casinos and our other businesses are working for the people, not against them. That we take a short-term look at beneficial programs as well as long-term having a long-term plan.

The result? Larger per capita of funds that directly benefit our families today while securing opportunity for future generations.

This is just the beginning. Together, we can build a stronger, more prosperous future for the Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

CORNELL
SANKEY

DENNY
MEDICINEBIRD
— 2025 —

Check out our website



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OLD CROW | SWEEZY
for GOVERNOR / LT. GOV.

Open Books, Humble Leadership, Starting Now.

No empty promises.

We believe in accountability from day one.

We can't in good conscience make any promises before conducting a forensic audit, because we don't know what revenue is coming in or going out. Until we do, the only promises we can make honestly are:



► OPEN BOOKS NOW

Running a campaign is expensive. A single postcard mailed to every tribal member can cost more than \$3,000.

Those high costs could push candidates to accept large donations from businesses or outsiders who expect favors once the election is over.

► We are making a different choice :

- We will only accept donations from individuals, never from outside businesses or special interests.
- We will publish all individual donations over \$500.
- This way, we will enter office owing no one but you.

► OPEN BOOKS IN OFFICE

Transparency can't stop on Election Day. If trusted to serve, our very first step will be an immediate forensic audit of tribal finances published for all tribal members to review. Every member has the right to see where we truly stand, and we can't make any promises until we have a clear picture of expenses and revenue.

From there, we will keep the books open with quarterly expense reports so no money moves in the dark.

We believe this is what humble, accountable leadership looks like.

► HUMBLE LEADERSHIP

We want to get back to our values as a people. In Cheyenne and Arapaho tradition, leaders gave to take care of the people, not the other way around.

► That is why we commit to .:

Lowering the Governor's salary to \$130,000, because leaders should not live lavishly while members go without

Using the extra \$50,000 each year to seed a new tribal non-profit that will secure grants for housing, elder care, education, and mental health for ALL tribal members, in and out of district.

No more expensive trips or unnecessary travel. Every trip we take will serve the people, or it will not happen.

As Albert likes to say, he has Motel 6 taste, not luxury taste. That's the kind of leadership our people deserve: simple, humble, and service-first, treating tribal money as belonging to the tribe, not to us.



Community Meet-n-Greets

→ 1-5 pm Sept. 13 - 9533 Osuna Road
Albuquerque, New Mexico

→ Sept. 26-27 - Doubletree Hotel, 83 East 120th
Thornton, Colorado

6-8 pm Friday Sept 26

8-10 am Saturday Sept. 27

→ 6-8:30 pm Oct. 2 - Concho ERC
Concho, Oklahoma



VOTE JERRY C. LEVI JR FOR ARAPAHO DISTRICT 2 LEGISLATOR

“
TRIBAL
FAMILIES
FIRST
”

MY GOALS/VISIONS:

- *Better Out of District Representation*
- *Utilize Tribal Constitution to Keep Executive Power in Check*
- *Introduce Legislation for Merit Pay Raises for Tribal Employees*
- *Establish Social Security Office for Inquiries and Disability Cases*
- *Long Term Solutions for Elder Housing, Veterans At-Risk of Homelessness*
- *Elder Coat Drives, Youth Empowerment and Involvement*
- *District Food Bank for Families Struggling to Make Ends Meet,
Single Income and Elders Raising Grandchildren*
- *Keep Community at the Forefront - Initiatives & Improvements
that further Us as a People. YOUR VOICE MATTERS*
- *Honesty. Transparency, Keeping the District Informed*

About Me: Veteran Leadership (Current OVA Director / U.S. Navy Veteran 97-01

OPEN DOOR AND OPEN LINE POLICY

Call Me, Text Me, Follow Me on Facebook. I want to hear from You!

405-882-9656

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' employees volunteer to hand out wristands to tribal families, covering three shifts on opening day of the Oklahoma State Fair. (Photos / Chris Roman Nose)



Cheyenne and Arapaho Day at the Oklahoma State Fair has become a cherished annual tradition for many tribal families across Oklahoma. Each year, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes provide free unlimited carnival ride wristbands—up to six per family—making it possible for families to come together and enjoy a full day at the fair without the added financial burden. The event continues to strengthen community ties while creating lasting memories for children and their families.

OBITUARIES

Judy Mae King

Judy Mae King passed from this life on Sept. 2, 2025. Born on Feb. 8, 2001, Judy was a devoted mother, daughter, sister, and wife whose greatest joy came from time spent with her family.

Family was everything to Judy. She especially cherished every moment with her sons, whether they were playing together, sharing quiet time in the same room, or simply enjoying each other's presence. That deep connection was one of the most meaningful parts of her life.

When not spending time with her boys, Judy found joy in reading and often escaped into the pages of a good book. She also loved swimming, both as a way to stay active and to experience

the calming rhythm of the water.

Judy is survived by husband Alexander Lewis and their two sons, Ezra Lewis and Naknihumma Lewis; her mother, Carla King, and husband Donald "Diego" Loneman, her father Darwin Lime and wife Codi Gonzalez, sisters, Gracie Torrez and husband Rafael Torrez, and Tacianna Franklin, sister in law Alysia Lewis and husband Davon Castillo, brother Ryland Batson, brother-in-law DaMario Lewis and her grandmother Judy Lime. Father-in-law, Gregory Goings and mother-in-law Chanda Goings.

She is preceded in death by her grandmother, Lila Jones, and her grandfathers, Amiel Twobabies and David



King.

Wake services were held Sept. 11 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Funeral services were held Sept. 12, at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Highland Cemetery in Stonewall, Okla., under the direction of John M. Ireland & Son Funeral Home.

Juanita Marguerite Lumpmouth

Juanita Marguerite Lumpmouth, 77, of Albuquerque, N.M. passed away on Aug. 20, 2025. She was born on May 30, 1948, in Clinton, Okla., to Rose Fletcher and Doty Lumpmouth.

She graduated from Central High School in Muscogee, Okla., Navajo Community College in Tsaile, Ariz., and Central New Mexico Community College in Albuquerque, N.M., and was just a few credits shy of earning a BA at the University of New Mexico.

Juanita held many professional positions in her life as she worked for entities that include the City of Corrales, the Salt River Tribe, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Tennis, golf, hiking, and walking her beloved dogs at the Bosque were some of the activities she enjoyed. She also happily doted over and helped care for her grandchildren.

Juanita is survived by her daughter Margaret Lumpmouth Lacy and her grandchildren, Nicholas Alec



Northrup and Evie Dahl-Priscilla Lacy.

Juanita's smile, quick wit, and sense of humor will always be remembered.

Tony Kim Reynolds

Tony Kim Reynolds, age 63, was born on March 31, 1962, in Clinton, Okla., and sadly passed away on Aug. 20, 2025, at St. John's Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla.

Tony's traditional Cheyenne name was Vohpenonoma'e (White Thunder). Tony was a beloved son of Roger and Janice (Old Crow) Reynolds. Prior to his death, he was employed with Lucky Star Casino in Clinton for over 10 years. A passionate fisherman, he cherished moments spent at Black Kettle Lake, with his nephews, sharing his love for the outdoors and creating lasting memories. Family was of the utmost importance to Tony; he found joy in spending time with his nieces, nephews and a special granddaughter Bella Standingwater, making every moment special.

An avid music enthusiast, Tony enjoyed the sounds of The Eagles and The Who, and he had a deep appreciation for WWE Wrestling. Additionally, he loved exploring casinos and was a devoted fan of the Minnesota Vikings.

Tony's spirit and warmth will be deeply missed by all who knew him. His legacy of love and laughter will forever remain in the hearts of his family and friends.

Tony is survived by his wife Karen Reynolds, adopted granddaughter Bella Standingwater, brothers, Toby Standing Bird, Sheldon Reynolds and wife Jacqueline, sisters, Angeline Lime and husband Gary, Barbara Ann Reynolds, aunt Viola Hines, uncle Eugene Bearhead and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.



He was preceded in death by his parents Roger and Janice Old Crow, brother Alvin Reynolds and sister JoAnn Reynolds.

A traditional all-night wake service was held Aug. 24 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held Aug. 25, at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Clinton Indian Cemetery under the direction of Kiesau-Lee Funeral Home.

OBITUARIES

Margaret Hutchinson Heap of Birds

Margaret Hutchinson Heap of Birds died Aug. 24, 2025, at her home Geary, Oklahoma.

Margaret was one of the longest living Arapaho elders in the Arapaho Tribe. She is survived by three sons, Edgar Hutchinson of Oklahoma City, Guy Hutchinson of Geary, and Arthur Hutchinson of Wichita, Kansas, two sisters, Jean Hutchinson of Geary and Charlene Hutchinson of El Reno; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was born in Concho on Nov. 18, 1931, to Charles and Nora (North) Hutchinson.

Margaret proudly attended Concho Indian School from age 5 to age 18. Over her youthful years she happily visited her aunt and uncle Mary and Chris Haury of Colony. Mary was very close to Margaret and helped raise her as a child.

Margaret was wedded to her late husband, Charles Many Magpies Heap of Birds, for

62 years. They were married at the home of Guy and Alice Lightning Woman Heap of Birds, outside of

Clinton. Her parents and son, Carl Heap of Birds also preceded her in death.

During the 1950s Margaret and Charles relocated from Clinton, Oklahoma to

Wichita, Kansas. They were able to work in the Beech Aircraft manufacturing plant. Margaret worked at Beech for 15 years. She served and was in the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Union. She was highly effective as an elected union steward and representative who helped fellow workers at the Beech Aircraft plant in Wichita. The Wichita experience gave Margaret and Charles valuable resources.

to raise and educate their large family in good standing.

In 1990, Margaret, Charles and family returned to their former reservation area and set up a home in Geary. This gave the family a wonderful homecoming and the residence continues to this day in Geary.

Later Margaret served as a housing commissioner for the Department of Housing.

She was able to help



Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizens secure proper housing

and improve their lives.

Margaret's favorite hobbies were working on colorful drawing art books, sewing

and string shawls, as well as bingo and hand games. She was also an intense fan of professional baseball. Her treasured baseball team was the Texas Rangers.

Wake services were held Aug. 28 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Funeral services were held Aug. 29, at the same venue, officiated by Rev. Gerald Panana, followed by an interment at the Concho Indian Cemetery under the direction of Huber-Benson Funeral Home.

Ruby Lucille Standingwater

Ruby Lucille Standingwater, Ho'eene'e (Feather Women), age 76 of Hammon, Okla., was born Aug. 8, 1949, in Clinton, Okla., to Woodrow and Helen (Whiteman) Standingwater. She passed away Aug. 25, 2025, at the Great Plains Regional Hospital in Elk City, Okla.

Ruby was raised in Hammon and attended school with the Class of 1968. A lifelong Hammonite, she was proud of her roots and community. She was a devoted member of the Hammon Indian Baptist Church and was active in the A.I.M. group.

Ruby enjoyed spending time at the casino, bowling, gourd dancing, and especially playing BINGO. She loved attending traditional dances and driving around to feed redbirds. She was also involved in the Redmoon Gourd Clan, the Redmoon

Powwow Committee, and the Redmoon Service Club, where she dedicated much of her time and energy.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Woodrow and Helen Standingwater, her son Randall Jenkins, daughter Karen Standingwater, sisters, Leona Stepp and Sharon Byrd, brother Nathan Standingwater, niece Fern Helen Standingwater, nephews, Denny Standingwater Jr., Darryl Byrd, and Russell Lee Standingwater and grandson Sylvester Standingwater.

Ruby is survived by her son Wilson Standingwater of Hammon, sisters, Margie Pewo of Hammon and Emma Lou Brewer of Elk City, brothers, Leland Standingwater of Hammon, and Denny Standingwater Sr. and wife Dana of Canton, Okla. She also leaves behind a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many



other relatives and friends who will cherish her memory.

Wake services were held Aug. 28 at the Hammon Emergency Response Center in Hammon, Okla. Funeral services were held Aug. 29, at the same venue, officiated by Rev. Mona Bearshield, Rev. Gerald Panana, and Rev. Jerry Wayne Roman-Nose, followed by an interment at the Hammon Menonite Cemetery under the direction of Lee Home-Town Funeral Home.

Audrina Trout, Clinton High School

(CLINTON, Okla.) - Stepping up to the plate in her senior year of softball, Cheyenne and Arapaho youth Audrina Trout, 18, batters up for her final season on the field.

Born and raised in Clinton, Okla., Trout grew up playing the game of softball and began playing at the age of 10, with some influence from her father. Since beginning high school softball, Trout had played as pitcher, but has since focused on playing in the outfield.

“My dad played baseball and softball growing up and he just wanted me to get into it, so ever since I fell in love with it and stuck

with it," Trout said.

What Trout loves the most about playing softball is how it has kept her in shape and has looked at softball as a good sport overall, as it often took her mind off of other things. Trout credits her father for continuing to motivate her to play.

“My biggest motivation is my dad first, he motivates me every day to keep pushing and for me to keep with it and keep learning with it.” Trout said.

As the only senior on the team, what Trout looked forward to the most in the season was spending time with the freshmen and building relationships. And Trout's goal for the season was to beat her batting average from the previous three years and to give her best shot in her last season as a senior.

“To give my all in every game, since it is my last year,” Trout said.

In her final moments as senior on the field, Trout had begun to feel sentimental as the season has continued to progress.

"It really makes me sad because I really don't plan on going to college for it, which is what my dad wants me to do, just sad and emotional, but I'm going to learn to enjoy every bit of it," Trout said enthusiastically.

Maintaining an estimated 2.7 GPA, Trout juggles her academics and sports by effectively managing her time, as “school always comes first.”

“Once that is taken care of then it’s all about softball after,” Trout said.

Playing softball, what Trout hopes to accomplish the most is learning as much as she can before the seasons over.

And through her years of playing, Trout feels she's grown the most playing in high school.

"I feel like I've grown a lot since my freshman year because my sophomore year, I've earned honorable mention and recognition. It really meant a lot to me because it reminded me of all the hard work that I put in," Trout said.

For the season, what Trout is focused on the most in her training is her hitting.

“Really just giving it my all in every play and never taking it for granted,” Trout said.

As a softball player, Trout believes it's important to have time and dedication as an athlete.

“You have to put the time in your sport in order to get better and dedication, if you don’t have the dedication to play the sport then you really won’t go anywhere or you wouldn’t go anywhere or be anywhere of who you want to be,” Trout said.

In her senior year, Trout hopes to be remembered as the player her team could count on for the next play, when bases are loaded and she's the one to get them all to home plate.

"It's taught me to for sure be strong because you do get hit a lot, you do have tough bases to get to," Trout said.

Clinton High School Head Softball Coach, Michael Deatherage described Trout as the epitome of what it means to be a student athlete.

“She performs at a high level in the classroom and brings that same level of effort



to the field. She is a natural leader on the team. As our only senior, she brings a level of experience that influences her teammates to work hard," Deatherage said.

Seen as a quiet leader who carries a big stick, Trout doesn't have a lot to say but when she speaks, it has substance and it carries weight with her teammates, Deatherage said.

“She is a silent professional whose actions lead the team. She is a solid player who does the little things right. She works hard and is a great team player,” Deatherage said.

Trout had a 300 batting average with a 400 on base percentage, she also had 3 RBI's and 6-runs scored over the 11 games played so far.

“She is a solid outfielder who has recorded 13 outs for the team and has a 938 fielding percentage,” Deatherage said.

After graduation, Trout plans to attend Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo., and major in business.

Audrina's father is Thomas Trout and her grandparents are the late Thomas Trout and Juanita "Skeeter" Trout.

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