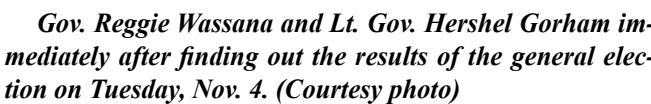


Rosemary Stephens, *Editor-in-Chief*

***Cheyenne District 4*** – Mariah Youngbull won

A formal election challenge was filed with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Election Commission by candidates Alden Whiteman and Debra Woolworth, citing “ballot box discrepancies.” As of press time, the Election Commission had not yet reached a decision on the challenge.



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune  
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*Montoya Whiteman, Tribal Tribune Correspondent*





# Perseverance and Purpose: Alexa Old Crow joins the Oklahoma Bar to serve tribal communities

Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

Home to 39 federally recognized tribal nations in the state of Oklahoma, there is always a need for more tribal legal representation for citizens and communities. And one tribal citizen is on the path to finding her place among tribal law and representing her people.

A citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Alexa Old Crow was duly sworn into the Oklahoma Bar Association as Oklahoma’s newest practicing attorney.

Born in Ada, Okla., and raised in Edmond, Okla., Old Crow knew from an early age that she wanted to be an attorney as she had an uncle that was also an attorney.

“When I was young, I just thought that was the coolest thing ever and I knew that was something I wanted to do for sure,” Old Crow said.

Not having any interest in being a doctor or teacher, Old Crow knew becoming an attorney was what she had to do. When Old Crow was attending college at the University of Oklahoma, she had begun

doing internships in 2008 in Washington, D.C. Over the summers, Old Crow worked at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (USCA), for Health and Human Services and in 2011 she had an internship with the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, which she had only planned to be there for nine months because of a leadership change, however, she ended up working there for a year and a half, putting her schooling on hold.

Old Crow went on to work for the House of Representatives for the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee where she had also only planned to work for six months and then ended up staying for five and a half years. In 2019, Old Crow married her husband, who was also an attorney and had received a job offer in Oklahoma City. It had become the perfect time to move back to Oklahoma.

“I’d always wanted to be an attorney growing up. It’s just, life gets in the way, jobs happen and I’d always plan on going back to school, but it just never was the right time in my career at that point,” Old Crow said.

After moving back to Oklahoma at the end of 2019, the Covid-19 pandemic hit not long after, with no jobs available at the time. Old Crow figured it was time to return to school. After completing her degree in multidisciplinary studies, where she studied a mix of political science and Native American studies, Old Crow studied for the LSATS and a month after giving birth to her daughter, she took the LSATS and applied for law school. In 2021, Old Crow began law school at the Oklahoma City University (OCU) School of Law.

“I had the best time at OCU, the professors were great, the alumni were wonderful and I made some really wonderful friends and actually had another baby during law school, so when I graduated from law school he was just turning a year old,” Old Crow said.

Taking her first bar exam in July 2024, Old Crow did not pass the first

or second time. It was when she attempted a third time taking the bar exam that she finally passed almost a year later in summer 2025, which Old Crow said was a relief. She was officially sworn into the Oklahoma Bar Association on October 2 at St. Luke’s Methodist Church in Oklahoma City during a swearing in ceremony.

“It’s been quite a long journey.”

“I always tell people, if I can get through law school with two kids, anyone can do it,” Old Crow said.

While working her internships in Washington, D.C., Old Crow noticed that all the professionals coming in to work for the tribes were all attorneys and if she wanted to work on behalf of her tribal community one day, she wanted to make an impact on Indian country.

“I think being an attorney would be the best option to kind of accomplish those goals,” Old Crow said.

While working for Funds for Employment, a professional firm specializing in the E-rate funding program, Old Crow gets to work with tribal clients such as the BIE and tribal libraries.

Ideally, Old Crow hopes to pursue practicing tribal law.

“There are so many opportunities now that I’m newly licensed, I haven’t really done a job search yet in what the future might hold, but I definitely always wanted to be involved in tribal law in some way,” Old Crow said.

Old Crow believes Indian law to be a fascinating area of law and while also complicated at times, it’s where she sees herself at in the future. As a newly licensed practicing attorney, Old Crow can begin practicing at any point, however is still searching for the right fit.

“There’s a lot of issues going on in society right now and I think, where do I want to



apply my knowledge and my skills, is it defending people? Is it prosecuting? There are so many options,” Old Crow said.

Getting into tribal politics and tribal law is what Old Crow is aiming for.

While embarking on her path to becoming an attorney wasn’t easy for Old Crow, it also wasn’t impossible. Starting law school later in life, Old Crow believes it’s never too late to go back to school.

“It’s never too late to begin a new career and even when I didn’t pass the bar two times, I definitely wanted to give up because I just felt like it was impossible, but if you have a dream and a goal and a good support system, it’s definitely something you can accomplish,” Old Crow said.

Alexa’s parents are Susan Anderson and Randall Old Crow. Her maternal grandparents are Eleanor Francis Anderson and Vernon Anderson. Paternal grandparents are Clara Old Crow and Denny Old Crow. Alexa’s husband is Brett Stavin and her children are Corinne and Connor Stavin.

# Special Session of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Tenth Legislature approves food pantry supplement and food cards for tribal citizens

Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

(CONCHO, Okla.) On October 30, 2025 a special session of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Tenth Legislature was called by Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana in Concho, Okla.

The public hearing was called to order at 10:07 a.m., with invocation given by Rector Candy. Present at roll call was A2 Kendricks Sleeper, A4 Rector Candy, C1 Bruce Whiteman, with A1 Diane Willis present via zoom call. Legislators A3 Travis Ruiz, C4 Byron Byrd and C3 Thomas Trout later joined the discussion. C2 George Woods was absent.

On the agenda, 12 items were discussed and voted on:

A resolution to amend resolution 10L-RS-2025-10-009 – a resolution to appropriate funds to the Food Pantry to provide services to tribal members that reside outside the state of Oklahoma.

A resolution to appropriate \$400,000 for Thanksgiving Meal Assistance for 18-54 year olds.

Sleeper announced during discussion that a decision was made during a previous working session for items number one and two to be corrected and both items were combined into one resolution, providing \$175,000 to the Food Pantry to supplement them and then to provide \$75 gift cards for in-state and out-of-state tribal citizens ages 18-54.

Item number one passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to appropriate funds for an employee bonus.

With the upcoming holidays, tribal employees will receive a Christmas bonus for any unforeseen expenses needed under the current economy, with the resolution stating a bonus rate of 7%. However, during the voting portion of the special session, Ruiz made a motion to update the resolution and bonus for 8% and the motion was seconded. While Whiteman disagreed with the sudden motion to change the percentage, a motion to call for the vote ensued with item number three passing with a vote of 5 yes and 2 abstaining.

A resolution to appropriate funds for vacation buyback.

Dayrah Elizondo, deputy general counsel with the Office of Tribal Attorney introduced the resolution as the annual end of the year vacation buyback for employees.

“The amount that was calculated and appropriated was \$974,332.37 that’s if everyone opted to buy the max hours but doesn’t necessarily mean everyone will, so any extra will go back to the general fund,” Elizondo said.

Item number four passed with a vote of 6 yes and 1 no.

A resolution to authorize Governor Wassana to drawdown trust funds located in Tribal Proceeds Labor Accounts PL7370700 & PL7210708 derived from Oil & Gas, Bonus and Farm and Grazing

Revenues.

“This is for December percap, a resolution that allows us to request to drawdown from the Bureau of Indian Affairs accounts, to issue the December percap,” Hershel Gorham, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes lieutenant governor said.

Questions raised during discussion over whether there was an estimated amount for the December per capita checks for oil and gas.

Gorham said when he had spoken with the superintendent, he was given an estimated amount of \$5 million that were in the accounts, when divided by the current tribal enrollment the amount of per caps would be estimated at approximately \$300.

While the tribes are still waiting for a deposit in the month of November from the BIA, Gorham stated the amount could change, but not substantially. The targeted date of distributing per cap oil and gas checks will be December 1, incentivizing individuals with direct deposit. Direct deposits will receive payments before December 1.

Item number five passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to approve the nomination of Dr. Natalie Youngbull to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund Board.

A resolution to approve the nomination of Breanna Faris to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund Board.

A resolution to approve the nomination of Quinton Roman Nose to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund Board.

A resolution to approve the nomination of Billie Sue Sutton to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund Board.

During the Oct. 11, 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund Act was created and the act established a Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Endowment Fund., which will be governed by a board of directors and composed of no more than five members.

During the public hearing discussion Breanna Faris, who currently has served as the director of the Higher Education Scholarship Program under the tribe’s Department of Education said,

“The Education Endowment Act is something we’ve been looking forward to for a long time, especially in terms of being able to kind of control our own educational sovereignty, so I’m happy to be a part of it.”

Faris said she was familiar with the way endowments function from her time at the University of Oklahoma, as most colleges and institutions run on multiple endowments for a lot of different causes and initiatives.

Billie Sutton, a retired teacher who taught in Clinton, Okla., said

she previously worked for the tribes in various positions including Head Start, for the Language program for five years and then served as a legislator before officially retiring.

“Currently I’m just enjoying sleeping in and working with the Arapaho language project, the language camp in Colorado that’s been going on, I’m coordinator and I helped established it, so I’m still involved with kids,” Sutton said.

Quinton Roman Nose later joined the discussion via zoom call, giving his thoughts on the endowment board.

“I have years of experience, I’m currently the executive director for Tribal Education Department of National Assembly, to help tribes with your education departments, I’ve learned a lot since the time we tried to start the tribal college years ago, I would like to serve on the board,” Roman Nose said.

Dr. Natalie Youngbull was not present during the special session.

Items numbers six through nine all passed.

A resolution to authorize and support USDOT Rural and Tribal Assistance (RTA) Pilot Program Grant Application pursuant to USDOT Docket Number DOT-OST-2025-103 (Pub. L. 117-58) for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Multimodal Pedestrian and Bike Safety Trails Project.

Angela Plumley, executive



# Oklahoma Tribal Nations Feel Strain of Historic Government Shutdown

Rosemary Stephens, Editor-in-Chief

Tribal officials warn the federal standoff is putting pressure on essential programs and treaty responsibilities.



Gov. Reggie Wassana and Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond attend the annual United Indian Nations of Oklahoma meeting at the tribes’ service center in Oklahoma City. (Courtesy photos)

**(OKLAHOMA CITY)** Impacts of the ongoing government shutdown are being felt across Oklahoma, including among the state’s Tribal Nations. Leaders gathered Thursday, Nov. 6, in Oklahoma City for the annual meeting of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma (UINO) to discuss how the shutdown and funding cuts are affecting critical programs—from food assistance and education to the

fulfillment of treaty rights. This year’s meeting came at a pivotal moment, as the nation faces the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. Tribal leaders said they are moving quickly to meet their citizens’ needs despite the uncertainty. While one group discussed how to continue vital services, another was already taking action. Across the hall, employees of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Food Pantry worked to stock boxes for metro families. The Oklahoma City-based pantry, funded through casino profits, has seen an increase in demand due to the loss of SNAP benefits.

“So, we’re trying to work every resource we have to make sure our tribal members at least get some kind of nutrition,” said Cheyenne and Arapaho Gov. Reggie Wassana in an interview with News9 reporter Jennifer Pierce. Wassana also expressed concern for the youngest tribal members enrolled in Head Start preschool programs.

“Will they stay open? Are they going to stay open?” he said. “And what do the kids do if the parents have to stay home and look after them if the Head Start is closed down?” Federal funding issues and shutdown concerns extend beyond Oklahoma’s borders. “My job is to remind the federal government, to remind the administration this is not something they should be doing,” said Mark Macarro, president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). “Fix it and fix it now.” Macarro emphasized that the federal government holds a legal and moral obligation to fund programs promised to tribes through treaties. “We need to stand up for our tribal sovereignty and protect our people,” he said in an interview with News9. Several Oklahoma tribes are stepping in to provide supplemental payments for members affected by the loss of SNAP benefits. Keynote speakers at the UINO meet-



Gov. Reggie Wassana addresses the audience at the annual United Indian Nations of Oklahoma held Thursday, Nov. 6 at the tribes’ service center in Oklahoma City.

ing included Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond, who updated attendees on efforts to address Missing and Murdered Indigenous People cases across the state, and NCAI President Mark Macarro. During the luncheon, UINO presented Gov. Reggie Wassana with a leadership award, recognizing his commitment to serving tribal citizens during a time of national hardship.

## Message from the Office of the Tribal Council

By Albert Old Crow  
Office of the Tribal Council Coordinator

As the autumn winds settle across our lands, we reflect with gratitude on a month of meaningful work, strong community engagement, and historic participation in our tribal government. Congratulations to all newly elected leaders—our incoming Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Legislators. May you serve with wisdom, humility, and dedication to the people. To every voter who let their voices be heard—whether in person or by mail—thank you. Each ballot cast was an act of sovereignty and care for our Nation’s future. In October, our office continued fostering open communication and transparency. Legislative sessions brought forward important measures for elder care, education, housing, and community wellness. Remote participation was offered for the first time at the Annual Tribal Council Meeting—an exciting milestone that helped more voices be

heard from near and far. The Plains Collective Indigenous Arts Festival in Watonga showcased the creative spirit of our people, reminding us that art and culture remain powerful sources of healing and connection. Looking ahead, November is full of opportunities for involvement—from the Legislative Hearings and Legislative Session the second weekend of each month, the Health Board meeting on November 6, the Veterans Day Parade in El Reno on November 9, to the Elder Conference in Clinton on November 14. I encourage everyone to take part, learn, and lend your voice to these gatherings. Our tribe grows stronger when we stay informed, participate with respect, and walk together in unity. For questions call my office at 405-422-7430, my cell number at 405-437-5269 or email aoldcrow@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov.

CHEYENNE and ARAPAH0 TRIBES 2025 GENERAL ELECTION November 4, 2025													
OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS													
GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
ALDEN WHITEMAN AND DEBRA WOOLWORTH	33	11	37	17	34	350	81	40	31	18	137	789	46.60%
REGGIE WASSANA AND HERSHEL GORHAM	44	30	39	10	46	348	147	48	42	28	122	904	53.40%
LEGISLATOR CHEYENNE DISTRICT 2	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
ROBERTA HAMILTON	0	1	0	15	8	113	2	4	0	0	41	184	47.55%
MILAN ROMAN NOSE, JR.	0	0	3	10	2	161	3	1	0	0	23	203	52.45%
LEGISLATOR CHEYENNE DISTRICT 4	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
BYRON BYRD	0	1	1	0	0	8	0	0	28	5	1	44	29.93%
MARIAH YOUNGBULL	0	0	1	0	0	4	8	0	32	36	22	103	70.07%
LEGISLATOR ARAPAH0 DISTRICT 1	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
PAMELA SUTTON	39	1	13	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	14	79	59.85%
RONI SUE (ALLEN) VILLEDA	17	2	8	0	1	18	1	0	0	0	6	53	40.15%
LEGISLATOR ARAPAH0 DISTRICT 2	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
LEAH BURROWS	0	0	2	0	41	118	1	0	0	0	24	186	47.45%
KENDRICKS SLEEPER	0	0	1	0	24	160	2	0	0	0	19	206	52.55%
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI EXECUTIVE BRANCH (1)	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
YES	44	21	44	15	46	374	126	41	34	28	169	942	56.88%
NO	19	19	32	12	33	316	101	45	35	15	87	714	43.12%
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI EXECUTIVE BRANCH (2)	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
YES	42	15	46	10	49	389	133	43	29	26	196	978	59.20%
NO	21	24	30	17	30	298	93	42	39	18	62	674	40.80%
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
YES	42	18	44	13	44	405	138	45	30	19	186	984	59.71%
NO	20	22	32	14	35	283	89	41	37	20	71	664	40.29%
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IX - ELECTIONS	CANTON	SEELING	WATONGA	KINGFISHER	GEARY	CONCHO	CLINTON	WEATHERFORD	HAMMON	ELK CITY	ABSENTEE	TOTALS	%
YES	49	19	45	16	47	423	134	49	33	21	183	1019	62.02%
NO	14	21	30	11	32	261	91	37	35	18	74	624	37.98%
TOTAL BALLOTS CAST	80	41	78	27	80	701	229	88	73	46	261	1704	
REGISTERED VOTERS	5789												
PERCENTAGE PARTICIPATED	29.44%												
CERTIFICATION													
We, the undersigned members of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Election Commission, hereby certify the above to be a true abstract of the votes cast for the General Election held November 4, 2025													
Sarah J. Gange C4 Kelly Auerman A2 Andrea Hinton C1 R. Welch C3 Theresa Parkhurst C2 Patricia A3 Brynn A1													



# Kooish, Arapaho Survivor of the Sand Creek Massacre

By Carolyn Freeland

A few of us grandchildren of John and Jennie Washee would like to share some oral history that was passed down to our family about our third great grandmother Kooish, who survived the Sand Creek Massacre. We are enrolled tribal members, and we are direct descendants of the massacre.

Our grandparents were both descended from a long line of Arapaho Chiefs. John Enos Washee, Sr., was an Arapaho Chief and his wife Jennie Spotted Wolf, was a Chief's daughter. Grandpa John's father was Naco Washee, and his mother was Julia Lizard. Naco's father was John Tomahawk Washee, whose mother was Kooish. Grandma Jennie's parents were Ben Spotted Wolf and Helen Knocking Face. Grandma Jennie's grandfather, Arapaho Chief Spotted Wolf signed the Medicine Lodge Peace Treaty.

At the time when Grandpa John was alive, he spoke about his grandmother Kooish. He knew her when he was a small child. Kooish survived the massacre by fleeing with her three children, one was strapped to her front, another strapped to her back, and she was holding the hand of her other child who was able to walk, as they fled from the gun fire and attacks on their camp. As she was running, two of her chil-

dren were shot to death, and she was able to escape from the attack with her child who was strapped to her front, an infant. She was also wounded and shot in the arm by gunfire. Kooish lived to tell her story, which has been passed down to the different generations of our family. Kooish was one of the last Arapaho survivors of the Sand Creek massacre, and she lived to be 104 years old.

John and Jennie Washee had three sons and a daughter and many grandchildren. Their names were Rayburne, Alvin, John Enos, Jr., and Carol Jean. Rayburne Washee had five children, Karen, Arlene, Bernie, Deanie, and Chrissy. John Enos Washee, Jr. served as Chairman of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in the late 1960s. He had five daughters, Carolyn, Emily, DeAnn, Ann Marie, Jamie, and four sons, David, Adam, Fred, and John John. Alvin Washee had two sons, Alvin Jr, and Michael.

The Washee family includes many family members who live throughout Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, Montana, South Carolina, and many other places in the US. We believe that our grandmother Kooish would be very proud to know that her legacy is still going, and her family line still lives on.



*Kooish, the oldest Arapaho survivor of the Sand Creek Massacre. (Photo courtesy of Western History Collections, Special Research Collections, University of Oklahoma Libraries, Walter Stanley Campbell Photograph Collection #260)*



*John and Jennie Washee (Photo Credit: Washee family's personal photo library)*

Adult Protective Services (APS) provides assistance and services to help protect vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect or exploitation occurring on trust land.

Adult Protective Services  
Caseworker- Tiara Osage (405) 422-7746


Supervised IIM Accounts Assistance is offered to help tribal members that have been determined unable to handle their own financial affairs.

Supervised IIM Caseworker- Rylee Ortega  
(405)422-7739

CHEYENNE and ARAPAHOTRIBES

Language and Culture  
Resource Program Presents

# Cheyenne Storytelling



Artwork by Merlin Little Thunder

November 21st | 3 PM – 8 PM

Potluck · Singing · Storytelling

Location:  
Fonda Emergency Response Center

For more information please contact Rebecca at  
(405) 422-7422

# A Tribal Public Health Authority: An Evolution of Tribal Health Sovereignty

Submitted by Chris Tall Bear

Maheo, the Creator, gave us four sacred gifts. First was conception - the gift of life through our parents, that union blessed by Maheo. Second was taking our first sacred breath - the moment we entered the world. Third was speech - the power to communicate with people, animals, and nature. Fourth was intelligence - the ability to reflect on our experiences, learn from them, and make wise choices for the future.

My name is Chris Tall Bear and my Cheyenne name is (Mo'e'ha, or Magpie). I am from the Deer Creek community, my parents are the late William Tall Bear Sr (Ho'neohvo'ko-maestse or White Wolf) and my mother, Minnie Flynn Drunkard (Ma'evotona'e or Red Wing). I am also a Sand Creek descendant on both sides of my family, Greasy Cook on my father's side and Grey Beard on my Mother's blood line.

Like many of you, I am a product of the Indian Health Service. I was born at Clinton Indian Hospital in the early 1970s. As a young boy, I remember the two-tone walls, the pay phone near the entrance, and the narrow waiting room. Back then, our tribes even had their own emergency room. For those from that genera-

tion, who doesn't remember a dental appointment in the yellow trailer or being one of Nancy's WIC kids? Hard to believe that was nearly 50 years ago!

My parents were part of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) Indian Relocation Program in the early 1960s. Its purpose was to entice tribal members to leave the communal life of our reservation area, relocate to urban cities, learn a trade, and assimilate into white society. Like many Cheyenne and Arapaho families seeking better opportunities, my parents moved to California, where my father attended the John O'Connell Vo-Tech welding program in San Francisco.

In May 1965, after completing his program, my father and mother made a pivotal decision. My mother urged them to return to Oklahoma so their young children could grow up among their Cheyenne people and know their traditions and ceremonies. Although I wasn't born yet, I'm deeply grateful they chose cultural belonging over material gain. That decision rooted our family in something far greater, our Cheyenne ceremonies.

Fast forward to 1975, when the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act 93-638 (IS-

DEAA) was passed. This law authorized federal agencies to work directly with Tribes and allocate funding to federally recognized nations. It affirmed our right to self-determination and gave Sovereign Tribal Nations the authority to manage their own programs.

Yet, even after 50 years, sadly, our tribes still rely heavily on the Indian Health Service (IHS) for most of our healthcare. I am not knocking on the exceptional clinical care and services currently being provided, nor do I mean any disrespect to the dedicated and committed staff who put their hearts into their work. But let's be real. Our tribes have not moved the needle much in 50 years. In that time, we've seen other tribal nations take steps to manage and assume that trust responsibility for their own tribally managed health care while advocating on behalf of their members, while our elected leaders watch quietly from the sidelines. It's time for our tribes to have an evolution, a time for our generation to take deliberate steps to reclaim our sovereignty by establishing our own Tribal Public Health Authority (TPHA).

Simply put, a TPHA is our own official public health entity, like a local health de-

partment, but grounded in the sovereignty, culture, and values of our Tribes. It is a formal, government-to-government declaration, codified in tribal law and policy, that we, the Cheyenne and Arapaho people, are best positioned to protect and promote the health of our communities using methods that reflect and respect our unique cultural histories and needs.

A Tribal Public Health Authority is responsible for safeguarding the health of the community. It does this by carrying out the Ten Essential Public Health Services - a framework that ensures everyone is cared for and that the Tribe leads its own health decisions. These services include:

- Monitor community health
- Collect data to understand what our people need.
- Identify and respond to health problems
- Act quickly when illness or danger arises.
- Inform and educate
- Share health knowledge in ways that honor our culture.
- Mobilize community partnerships
- Collaborate with elders, youth, and programs to find solutions.
- Develop policies and

- plans
- Create tribal policies that reflect our values and protect health.
- Enforce tribal health laws
- Uphold rules that keep our people safe.
- Ensure access to care
- Help all citizens receive services, no matter where they live.
- Build a skilled workforce
- Train and support tribal health professionals.
- Evaluate and improve programs
- Use data and feedback to strengthen our efforts.
- Support strong infrastructure
- Establish lasting systems, offices, and leadership for public health.
- These services form a strong foundation. They help us care for our people in a way that reflects who we are and where we wish to go in the future. When our people lead these efforts, we are expressing our inherent sovereignty and in effect, demonstrating our self-determination.
- A successful and respected Tribal Public Health Authority is like a ceremony. It must be built with protocol and procedure to protect its integrity. Just as we follow sacred protocols in a sweat lodge or naming ceremony, we must follow thoughtful

- steps in building our health systems. These steps help us gather data, make informed decisions, and serve our people with respect. But data is only meaningful if it is protected through procedure, so we must create systems that honor our respective cultural and tribal values.
- We must also balance modern tools with traditional teachings. Technology can help us reach more people, track health trends, and improve the health of our people. But we must never forget our respective ceremonies, our languages, and our elders. These are the roots that keep us strong.
- I am interested in hearing from other like-minded and forward-thinking tribal members who are interested in supporting the development of a tribal public health authority. It's not something that will be immediate, but in reality, will take time to fully conceptualize. It is a process to build and if we have support and momentum, this can be achieved and our children can enjoy the sacrifices of our efforts, just as our ancestors made prayers for us, we will carry that forward.
- I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to reach out to me at: ctallbear1@gmail.com.



# SPECIAL SESSION

continued from pg. 2

director of the Department of Transportation said the grant was submitted to obligate funds of an estimated \$1 million for project planning, engineering and design phases to advance five pedestrian bicycle paths within the tribal communities to construction phase.

According to the resolution, the Department of Transportation identified the need to improve five pedestrian/bike path areas of concern for pedestrian traffic in the tribal service area. The projects include:

Project #26 – Clinton I-40 Business Loop Pedestrian Safety Trail and Light Project (Rte 4714)

Project #52 – Hammon Tribal Community (SH33) Pedestrian and Bike Path Safety Project (Rte 4419)

Project #53 – Canton Tribal Community (SH58A) Pedestrian and Bike Path Safety Project (Rt 1533)

Project #54 – Watonga Tribal Community (SH270) Pedestrian and Bike Path Safety Project (Rte 1408, 1409)

Project #55 – El Reno/Concho Tribal Community (SH81) Pedestrian and Bike Path Safety Project.

Item number 10 passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to approve and adopt the updated Drug and Al-

cohol Policy for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Transit Program.

Plumley stated in order to stay in compliance with the Federal Transit Administration, they have to update the drug and alcohol policy specifically for the tribal transit program.

“I will say the differences, it’s not so much a second chance policy because it is a zero-tolerance policy, it does allow the employee if they test positive that they can transfer to another position within the tribes and they’re not immediately terminated,” Plumley said.

The amended drug and alcohol policy would allow the transit program to comply with all applicable federal regulations governing workplace anti-drug and alcohol programs.

Item number 11 passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

A resolution to approve the submission for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) – FY 2025 Competitive Grant Program (FR-6700-N-48) in the amount of \$7,500,000.

Damon Dunbar, executive director of Department of Housing said the resolution would be for new construction of duplexes and two homes in El Reno, Okla.

“We’re building with the current one which is the \$6 million that we got awarded. Concho is

getting five family duplexes and four elderly duplexes,” Dunbar said.

Housing will submit for \$7,500,000 that would build two more elder duplexes and four more family duplexes in Concho and all will be low-income rental residential units. There will also be two 3-bedroom homes in El Reno that will be the Mutual Help Homes for low-income families to own through the housing program.

Wassana stated at some point if the tribes wanted to put additional units, there would be room for growth in the future.

“I know we’re getting some of these expenses with this shut-down but if we contributed more money, we would be able to do more duplexes, I was thinking of the elders,” Wassana said.

Construction for the units is planned for early 2026. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Housing Authority would submit an application for the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) – FY 2025 Competitive Grant Program for new construction of housing activities for \$7,500,00. The grant is due January 15, 2026.

Item number 12 passed unanimously with a vote of 7 yes.

The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Cheyenne & Arapaho Owned & Operated


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# SAND CREEK RUN

continued from pg. 1

First-time participants Alex and Aliana Reed had an eye-opening experience. Aliana admitted that she had never heard about the Sand Creek Massacre. It was unimaginable, even “crazy” to her what happened to her people, and learning about the bounty and desecration of the victims was especially unsettling. Alex said that it was rewarding for him to be able to run for those who can’t. Participating gave them a chance to reconnect with themselves and to question why more Cheyenne and Arapaho youth are not interested in this history. Their advice to other young people is to participate in future runs as an opportunity to educate yourself about the events at Sand Creek and to visit the site in person. They said, “It is a positive experience — plus you get to visit Colorado.”

As highlighted by event participants eager to learn, Cheyenne and Arapaho communities in Colorado, Montana, Oklahoma, and Wyoming can foster authentic educational spaces where students can learn their tribal histories, engage with one another, and strengthen their Indigenous identities.

## Northern Cheyenne Chaperone Reflections

Keyon Fisher and Shanaya Spang, both

members of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, chaperoned a group of youth from the tribal school during this year’s commemorative run and walk. For Keyon, it was his first experience serving as a chaperone. He expressed that it was rewarding to bring the children to the event, providing them with the opportunity to learn about and experience the history surrounding the Sand Creek Massacre. Keyon noted that only a few of the youth were familiar with what occurred, underscoring the importance of sharing tribal history and ensuring that their people know “we are still here.” He reflected on the ancestors and appreciated the positive atmosphere of the gathering.

Shanaya shared that including children in the event brought a sense of lightness and hope, which was especially meaningful given the emotional weight carried by those who are keeping the memory of Sand Creek alive. She described how uplifting it was to watch the children run, their long hair flowing and the eagle staff held high. Shanaya expressed gratitude to Keyon for his leadership, mentioning how much she learned from him. Both chaperones found inspiration in the enthusiasm and energetic spirit of the young runners.

## An Elder’s Sage Advice

Northern Cheyenne elder Lenora Wolf Name reflected on her own family experiences around Sand Creek. She remembers coming to Colorado with her mother, and her mother crying at the cemetery. She was sad because not as many elders participated in the Sand Creek events as in the past because many have passed. Her advice is to encourage the children to know where they come from and to learn about their tribal history, not only in Colorado but in their own homelands. She said Chiefs Dull Knife (Morning Star) and Little Wolf were looking toward the future, and they believed in fighting for what they have. It is because of their courage and vision we are still here today. Lenora said she wants the Cheyenne people to stay connected and united as our ancestors were. She gets tearful when she thinks about the past. Most of all,

she wants the Cheyenne youth to “live with values of sincerity, humbleness, kindness, and to always help each other.”

## Colorado Tribal Member Perspectives

Among the Colorado-based tribal residents who took part was Alliana Brady, a student at Metropolitan State University in Denver. A member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and Seminole Tribe of Florida, Alliana serves on the Sand Creek Massacre Board of Directors, helping to honor and preserve the Sand Creek Massacre story. She sees that role as a responsibility to stand alongside Indigenous youth and to help share the Sand Creek story. She strongly feels children should know their history. “Sand Creek lives on,” she said. “We’re still making history at Sand Creek. We live on!”

White Antelope descendant Carson Antelope has been living in Colorado since 2008. He likes to reconnect with local and out of state community members, especially during the anniversary of the Sand Creek Massacre. He enjoys seeing the runners, reconnecting with family members, listening to the speakers, and enjoying tasty food at event gatherings in Denver.

## It Falls on Today’s Youth to Learn Our History

At the celebration luncheon held at History Colorado, Greg Spottedbird Lamebull, board chair of the Sand Creek Foundation, described his experiences at this year’s event by saying, “There’s nothing like being in a van for three days with 10 children!”

Greg expressed that it was a unique opportunity to learn about each other and share some of his grandparents’ teachings, which his grandfather encouraged him to pass on to the children. He said he asked the children “what does an ancestor mean to you?” The lesson he wanted the children to realize is that one day they, too, will be ancestors to future generations.

Greg is confident that tribal members will make sure the story of the Sand Creek Massacre endures. “The Cheyenne and Arapaho people will always be remembered for years and years to come,” he said. “All the people who helped with this event lost hours from their work to be here, to do something posi-



Arapaho and Cheyenne youth l-r: Alex Reed, Carlita Brown, Aliana Reed, and Adriana Redbird at the Iliff School of Theology. (Photos / Montoya Whiteman)

tive. It means everything to us.”

## Learn What’s Ahead in 2025 and 2026

Plan to be in Denver for the Candlelight Vigil for the 161st Anniversary of the Sand Creek Massacre. Join massacre descendants at the Denver Public Library to remember the victims on November 29 at 6:30 pm. Keynote speaker will be Chris Tall Bear, a Southern Cheyenne descendant of Sand Creek who serves on the Sand Creek Massacre Colorado State Memorial Committee. The event is free and open to the public.

Participate in the 2026 Sand Creek Massacre Spiritual Healing Run and Walk, where the Sand Creek Massacre Foundation is planning to unveil the sculpture titled Peace Keepers on the west steps of the Colorado State Capitol. The sculpture will be installed in time to receive the runners. Donations for the Peace Keepers memorial are being accepted at the Sand Creek Foundation website, sandcreekmassacrefoundation.org/memorial.

The Sand Creek Foundation is seeking Cheyenne and Arapaho youth ages 14-25 to join the Sand Creek Foundation Youth Council. They are seeking young Cheyenne and Arapaho leaders who are dedicated to shaping the future of remembrance and healing and who wish to foster empowerment and connection among descendant youth. To learn more, email info@sandcreekmassacrefoundation.org.



Northern Cheyenne Chaperones, Caption Keyon Fisher and Shanaya Spang at the Iliff School of Theology.



ATHLETES'SPOTLIGHT

By Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

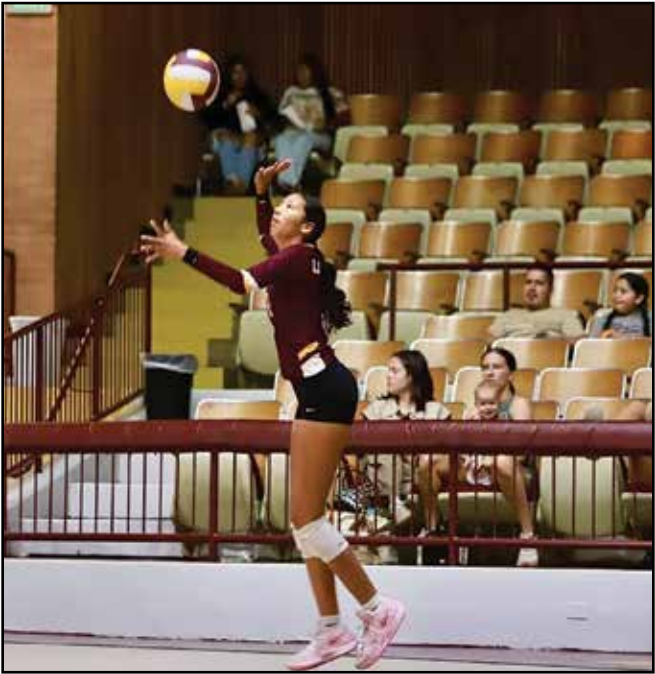
## DanyElla Redshin, Clinton High School

(CLINTON, *Okla.*) Serving up plays and setting the tone for the volleyball court, Cheyenne and Arapaho youth, DanyElla Redshin, 17, gives her all to the sport she’s long come to love as her senior year of volleyball comes to an end. Standing 5’9, Redshin plays outsider and setter for the Clinton High School volleyball team. As a multisport athlete, Redshin also plays basketball and soccer.

Born and raised in Clinton, Okla., Redshin began playing volleyball the end of her eighth grade year, with some encouragement from friends. “I’ve always just grew up watching it, so I kind of just wanted to play,” Redshin said. As a sport she’s come to love over the years, what Redshin has come to love the most about playing volleyball is the bonds she’s created with players and having fun on and off the court. “My biggest motivation is that my little sisters look up to

me and I have a lot of underclassmen that look up to me and I just try to push myself to be what’s best for them, so I can be a good role model,” Redshin said. In her senior year of playing volleyball, what Redshin looked forward to the most in the season was playing her hardest and stepping on the court one last time. “It was definitely sad. I knew it was going to be my last year playing high school volleyball, so I kind of just gave my all,” Redshin said. Redshin set high goals for the season, knowing it would be her last year with her team. Her goals included being the best person she could be as well as being the leader that the younger classmen could look up to. “I kind of just put everything on the line,” Redshin said. Maintaining an estimated 2.5 to 3.0 GPA in school, Redshin has always believed in being a student before an athlete. She also took time outside of sports and school to spend time with family and friends. “It’s definitely hard trying to manage both of them ... if you don’t get your work done in school, then you can’t be an athlete,” Redshin said. What Redshin hoped to accomplish the most playing volleyball was to better herself, improve on the court from the year before and continue improving. There’s always room to improve, Redshin said. Striving to improve every day in practice, Redshin would attend open gyms either in Concho or Clinton communities, playing the sport whenever she could to stay active. And while the season has come to an end, Redshin looked forward to continuing to play outside of high school volleyball, as it’s become a sport that she believes will stick with her for the rest of her life. “I’ve grown a lot on and off the court. I think it’s made me who I am today, I don’t think I would really be who I am today without sports because I’m not a real big person on talking to people, so creating bonds with other people really made me step out my comfort zone,” Redshin said. The best way to improve herself on the court was to continue pushing herself and focusing on herself rather than on

what others could do. Having good communication and leadership skills were key for Redshin as a volleyball player. “Volleyball is like a sport made of mistakes, so if you made a mistake and the other team gets the point, just communicate with your teammates, letting them know what to do on and off the court, I think it’s a big impact on how things can go,” Redshin said. Stepping into roles and getting out of her comfort zone in her senior year, Redshin hopes to be remembered as a leader. “Somebody who younger classmen looked up to and being somebody to push myself and not really giving up and just keep moving forward,” Redshin said. What volleyball has taught Redshin overall is how to be a better person and communicate with people, becoming more vocal and outgoing. And when she’s out on the court playing, Redshin feels her happiest. “I’m always happy to be out there on the court with teammates, friends, anybody, so stepping on to the volleyball court, really just hypes me up and keeps me going,” Redshin said. After graduation in the spring of 2026, Redshin plans to attend college to pursue her dream of playing college volleyball and to study sports management. *Ella’s mother is Kim Redshin and her great grandparents are Ervin and Bernice Bull as well as her grandmother Ronda Redshin, grandfather Ronald Redshin. Her siblings include David, Damyn, Danaiya, Daralis Redshin, Dariney and Madison Sandy and Arianne Ortega. Ella’s uncles include James Burns and Ronald Redshin, also known as Sonny and her aunt Sylva Redshin.*



# Trailblazer on the Slopes: Native Hall of Fame Honors Cheyenne, Arapaho Athlete Ross Anderson’s Record-Breaking Career

Latoya Lonelodge, Senior Reporter

Becoming a five-time hall of famer as an All-American record holder for speed skiing was not what professional athlete Ross Anderson, a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes had envisioned when he first learned to ski at the age of three. Humble in nature, Anderson lets his accolades of being an eight-time national champion, four-time podium and first Native American to secure a podium place in the World Championships, speak for itself. Having earned his place among speed skiing as a Native American and person of color, Anderson has become known as the fastest skier in American history, with the fastest speed ever recorded at 154.06 mph. Honoring Native Americans whose achievements have shaped contemporary history as well as recognizing and celebrating the inspirational contributions of Native leaders, athletes and cultural icons, the National Native American Hall of Fame

inducted Anderson into its 2025 class. The induction ceremony was held November 1 at the OKANA Resort and Hotel in Oklahoma City, with many arriving dressed in formal attire, tables dressed in colorful decorum and the chandeliers radiating the room with soft sparkling crystals of light. The ceremony was induction number five for Anderson, who felt honored and yet felt the occasion was also surreal. “I never thought I would be in this era of being inducted for the National Native American Hall of Fame, especially with the sport of speed skiing, as an athlete ... doing what I’ve done, it’s hard to believe, sometimes it’s surreal to me and I’m really just taking it all in right now,” Anderson said. Through his legacy of breaking records and establishing himself as a speed skier, the message that Anderson strives to con-



Professional speed skier and all american record holder, Ross Anderson, citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, holds his ski helmet up proudly as he is inducted into the National Native American Hall of Fame. (Photos / Latoya Lonelodge)



The 2025 Inductees of the National Native American Hall of Fame. Pictured l-r: Ross Anderson, Deb Haaland, Dwight Birdwell, Lynn Valbuena and W. Ron Allen.

vey through his success is for others to be who they are and not be scared to do what they want. “It doesn’t have to be an athlete, it could be anything, but take that next step of really going out there and making a change,” Anderson said. Since he was 18 years old, Anderson never envisioned himself earning the accolades that he’s accomplished, his only vision was to see someone of color compete in the world cup. “I was just wanting to be there to make a change, to have somebody of color for the younger generation to realize, it’s not just your usual sports, basketball, running, other things like that, but skiing itself can happen as well,” Anderson said. Continuing his legacy, Anderson’s motivation comes from the younger generation and what led to creating his kid’s programs, teaching them something new and allowing them the opportunity to go on a mountain and ski.

“Their eyes have changed to something bigger and better is kind of like breaking down the wall and when they accomplished it, now they know they’re able to do whatever they want to do,” Anderson said. With his non-profit organization, Star 154 Foundation, Anderson looks forward to starting the foundation back up and doing more programs. And taking it day by day, Anderson hopes to continue his vision of making a difference. “Each day’s different and surprises like this, being inducted, we’ll see what happens next for me, you just got to really go out there and do what you can, while we’re here and complete your voyage and have that vision of making that difference in life, that’s what I continue doing throughout my whole entire raising,” Anderson said. As Anderson was called to the stage to be recognized as an inductee for the National Native American Hall of Fame, he



## LEGAL NOTICES

CIV-2024-0106

CHEYENNE & ARAPAH0 TRIBES  
OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022  
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FILM IMAGE  
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In the Matter of:  
MARLA J. HOGNER  
Petitioner,  
VS.  
BRYNLEE FLETCHER  
Respondent,

Case No. CIV-2024-0106

**NOTICE OF HEARING  
BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **BRYNLEE FLETCHER  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS**

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of **DECEMBER 2025**, at **10:00 A.M.**, in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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

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

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<https://zoom.us/join>
  - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - o Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
  - o Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
  - o Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
  - o Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

*Tawny Melendez*  
Tawny Melendez, Chief Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CIV-2024-0107

CHEYENNE & ARAPAH0 TRIBES  
OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022  
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In the Matter of:  
MARLA J. HOGNER  
Petitioner,  
VS.  
EASTON FLETCHER  
Respondent,

Case No. CIV-2024-0107

**NOTICE OF HEARING  
BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **EASTON FLETCHER  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS**

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of **DECEMBER 2025**, at **10:00 A.M.**, in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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

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

Dated at the Trial Court this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

*Tawny Melendez*  
Tawny Melendez, Chief Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CIV-2025-0053

CHEYENNE & ARAPAH0 TRIBES  
OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022  
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In the Matter of the Application of:  
Z.W.P.,  
Minor Child,  
To Change His/Her Name  
By Next of Kin,  
Russell Koshiway

Case No. CIV-2025-0053

**NOTICE OF HEARING  
BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **SARENA KOSHIWAY  
TIMOTHY PRIMEAUX  
UNKNOWN ADDRESSES**

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of **DECEMBER 2025**, at **10:00 A.M.**, in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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

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

Dated at the Trial Court this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.

*Tawny Melendez*  
Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CIV-2025-0080

CHEYENNE & ARAPAH0 TRIBES  
OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK  
DEPUTY

In the Matter of the Application of:  
N.P.S.,  
Minor Child  
To Change His/ Her Name  
By Next of Kin, Aaron Sleeper

Case No. CIV-2025-0080

**CIVIL SUMMONS BY  
PUBLICATION**

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES TO: **ALANNA STONE  
Address Unknown**

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

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

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

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

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

*Tawny Melendez*  
Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

PG-2025-0035

CHEYENNE & ARAPAH0 TRIBES  
OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022  
DOCKET PAGE  
FILM IMAGE  
COURT CLERK  
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In the Matter of the Guardianship of:  
J.P.T.,  
Minor Child,

Case No. PG-2025-0035

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **KAYCEE WALKER  
UNKNOWN ADDRESS**

TAKE NOTICE that Carley Meat, has filed in this Court a Petition for Guardianship of Minor Child, J.P.T., and is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard by the Cheyenne-Arapaho Trial Court of Concho, Oklahoma in the Courthouse located at 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, P.O. Box 102, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of **DECEMBER, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said relief should not be granted.

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

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

Dated at the Trial Court this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

*Tawny Melendez*  
Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

PG-2025-0086

CHEYENNE & ARAPAH0 TRIBES  
OF OKLAHOMA  
IN THE TRIAL COURT  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAH0 TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA  
P.O. BOX 102  
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022  
DOCKET PAGE  
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In the Matter of the Guardianship of:  
SADIE RENEE NEPHEWS  
DOB 10/31/2007  
An Alleged Incapacitated Person,

Case No. PG-2025-0086

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: **ANY INTERESTED PARTIES**

TAKE NOTICE that Sabrina Nephew, has filed in this Court a Petition for Guardianship of An Adult Sadie Renee Nephews, and is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard by the Cheyenne-Arapaho Trial Court of Concho, Oklahoma in the Courthouse located at 100 W. Black Kettle Boulevard, P.O. Box 102, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of **DECEMBER, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said relief should not be granted.

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

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

Dated at the Trial Court this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2025.

*Mary Ellledge*  
Mary Ellledge, Deputy Court Clerk  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

**DREAMS PROGRAM**

**Ignite Your Drive, Spark Your Future with FREE GED Classes!**

Ready to transform your life? Our dynamic GED (*General Education Development*) classes are your pathway to success! Whether you're aiming for better job prospects, higher education, or personal growth, our program is meticulously crafted to guide you towards greatness!

**Why Embrace our GED Classes?**

- ✓ Expert Guidance: Learn from skilled counselors devoted to your success.
- ✓ Flexibility Redefined: Tailored schedules to harmonize with your busy life.
- ✓ Personal Empowerment: Customized lessons that match your learning pace.
- ✓ Empowering Community: Join like-minded learners, fostering mutual growth.

**Core Subjects to Conquer**

- Language Arts (Reading & Writing): Master communication for any arena.
- Mathematics: Unlock analytical skills to excel in practical situations.
- Science: Explore the world around you with a scientific mindset.
- Social Studies: Grasp the tapestry of human societies and history.

**What to Bring**

1. CDIB: Proof of enrollment in a federally recognized tribe.
2. Second Form of ID: Driver's license, birth certificate, social security card, passport
3. Proof of Income: Paystubs, unemployment, benefits letter, SNAP/TANF/SSI
4. Proof of Residency: Utility bill, bank statement, rental/lease agreement

**To better serve you, our services will be by APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**for the months of November & December, 2025.**

**Please reach out to book your spot in advance.**

**Call: DREAMS CONCHO: (405)422-7662**

**Email: [Dreamsgroup@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov](mailto:Dreamsgroup@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov)**

**Testing Sites: 405 W Main Street, Watonga, OK 73772**

**10329 N 2274 Road, Clinton, OK 73601**

**110 E White Rabbit Road, Concho, OK 73022**

**Tribal Transit Program**

*Celebrating Native American Heritage Month*

**Beginning November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**Ending November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Week #1 - \$25.00 Visa Gift Card**

**Week #2 - \$50.00 Visa Gift Card**

**Week #3 - \$75.00 Visa Gift Card**

**Week #4 - \$100.00 Visa Gift Card**

**Hop on a Fixed Route and enter to win a Gift Card every week! (Month of November only)**

In recognition of Native American Heritage Month, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Transit (CAIT) Program would like to thank our clients for using our Fixed Route services. For the month of November, each passenger of the Sefting, Hammon, or Oklahoma City (Fixed Route) bus may enter to win a gift card each week! Ask your bus driver how to enter!

**IMPORTANT**

**Limited to 1 entry per day**

**Questions?**

Contact the Transit office @

(580)331-2600 or (800) 247-4612 ext. 32600

or Email @:

[transit@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov](mailto:transit@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



November 20, 1964  
Happy Birthday to my twin brother  
Every time I think of how far we've come,  
my heart is just so full of joy and gratitude.  
We are blessed with a bond that not many  
people share.  
We accept each other's differences and  
support the individual paths we have  
chosen. We lost our dad, we have been  
there for each other since.  
Thank you for being everything and so  
much more. I know that no matter what I'll  
always have you in my corner.  
I'm so proud of you and I love you.



Happy 5th birthday to our sweet  
handsome boy **Genesis Cole!!**  
Hope you have a **GOOD** day we love  
you! love your Family



DOUBLE DIGITS! Happy cake day Q!  
Gma, Papa, Mom, and Sissy loves you  
and we are very proud of you!



Happy sweet 16  
Patience Motse'ooo'e Twins  
Your family wishes you all the  
best on your special day.  
November 6, 2019  
Love,  
Your Momma

## Healing to Re-Entry Program Judicial Branch Court Services

Tribal Justice Center  
PO BOX 102  
Concho, OK 73022

**Who Can Apply:**

- Federally Recognized Tribal Member
- Served 6 months or more in prison/county
- On active Probation
- Must Physically Reside or Planning to Reside in program service area: Blaine, Beckham, Canadian, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Kingfisher, Roger Mills and Washita Counties.

**We Offer:**

- Reintegration Services
- Health/Mental Health Referrals
- Court Reports/Court Advocacy
- Individualized Case Plans
- Creating a re-entry support team for you.
- Compliance with Probation
- Employment Referrals
- Transitional Living Referrals
- Treatment Correspondence
- Prison Correspondence
- Legal Aid Referrals

Office: 405.422.7423  
Cell: 405.215.1529  
Email: [healingtoentry@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov](mailto:healingtoentry@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov)

CHEYENNE and ARAPAHO TRIBES

## Tribal Foster Families Needed

Let's Make a difference in a child's life Today!

IN OKLAHOMA, THERE IS A NEED FOR TRIBAL FOSTER PARENTS.  
BECOME A TRIBAL FOSTER PARENT!

BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT IS ANOTHER WAY TO CARRY ON THIS TRADITION BY KEEPING TRIBAL HISTORY AND VALUES ALIVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

For more information contact:  
The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Social Services  
Foster Care Program  
Lakendra J. Gould  
Foster Care and Recruitment  
405.422.6041  
[lakendra.j.gould@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov](mailto:lakendra.j.gould@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov)

Every Child needs a Family

CHEYENNE and ARAPAHO TRIBES

CHEYENNE and ARAPAHO TRIBES

The Child and Adult Protection Services Caseworker is responsible for receiving, examining, investigating and evaluating every complaint concerning a child and adult when they have been allegedly subjected to abuse (physical, emotional, sexual) and neglect occurring on trust land.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us

ADULT AND CHILD PROTECTION  
SERVICES CASEWORKER (405) 422-7746

**OKLAHOMA INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ASSOCIATION**  
**CHILDREN'S POWWOW**

Please join us for our inaugural powwow honoring the many American Indian families impacted by foster care and adoption

## SAVE THE DATE

**NOVEMBER 19, 2025**  
**OKANA RESORT AND WATERPARK**  
**Grand Ballroom**  
639 First Americans Museum Blvd  
Oklahoma City, OK 73129

Gourd Dance 5:00pm  
Break 6:00pm  
Grand Entry 7:00pm

## YOUTH CONTESTS

TINY TOTS \* JR GIRLS \* JR BOYS \* TEEN GIRLS \* TEEN BOYS

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

TAKES PLACE DURING THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OICWA CONFERENCE

CONTEST SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

CONFERENCE VENDOR SPOTS ARE LIMITED

POWWOW COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

KENDRA LOWDEN  
580-399-0442

TAYLOR MCCLELLAN  
405-219-2486

WWW.OICWA.ORG

DANCERS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME

**18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL OICWA CONFERENCE**  
"PROTECTING SOVEREIGNTY: BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE"

OICWA

DREAMS

# NOVEMBER

During the holiday season we will still be available to help you with

## WORK READINESS -BY APPOINTMENT ONLY-

SCHEDULE BY CONTACTING  
THE CLINTON OFFICE @ 580-331-2412  
OR THE CONCHO OFFICE @ 405-422-7662  
Email us at [Dreamsgroup@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov](mailto:Dreamsgroup@cheyenneandapaho-nsn.gov)

# DECEMBER

CHEYENNE and ARAPAHO TRIBES





*Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal leadership and fans show support for the induction of tribal citizen Ross Anderson during the Induction Ceremony Gala. Pictured l-r: Teresa Dorsett, Lt. Gov. Hershel Gorham, Ross Anderson, Gov. Reggie Wassana, Rachel Lynn, LaRenda Morgan and Andy Rednose.*

## ROSS ANDERSON: HALL OF FAME

*continued from pg. 6*

was honored with a Pendleton blanket and medal. As echoes of applause filled the room, the presence of Anderson’s legacy as well as the other inductees’ successes made the occasion a historical event.

Frances Alvarez, president of the National Native American Hall of Fame said the ceremony was their most well attended event and it’s because of the significance of the inductees who were in attendance.

“We run this organization on passion, not a large budget, and it shows in the presence that you see here tonight, the joy that it brings to everyone and it’s about legacy, it’s about preserving their stories for our future generations,” Alvarez said.

In Anderson’s own words, he said representation is key. Being the only fast skier of color and being proud of his heritage, Alvarez said it was an honor to witness.

“He actually made history tonight, so to witness an example like him and the representation he brings to our native youth was history in the making,” Alvarez said.

As of 2025, the National Native American Hall of Fame has had 58 inductees. Alvarez said the greater hope for inductees is to be that representation for native youth.

“That they no longer have to look for someone whose like them, but to know that they can achieve greatness,” Alvarez said.

Five other distinguished individuals were also inducted, including, W. Ron Allen, James-

tone S’Klallam Tribe, renowned for his leadership and advocacy for tribal sovereignty, Notah Begay III, Navajo Nation and San Felipe/Isleta Pueblo, acclaimed PGA golfer, Dwight Birdwell, Cherokee Nation, medal of honor recipient for heroism during the Vietnam War, Deb Haaland, Laguna Pueblo, U.S. Secretary of the Interior and the first Native American to hold a cabinet position and Lynn Valbuena, Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, longtime tribal leader and advocate for women in leadership roles.



*Left: Audryanna Hicks, junior, Marley Gamboa, junior, Jessica Ochoa, senior and Aracelie Chavez, junior at the College & Career Fair in Clinton, Okla. (Photos submitted by Terri Hines)*



*Seniors Audrina Trout and Derrin Hester*



*Pictured left is DanyElla Redshin, senior, Ronda Burns, junior and Ronnie Redshin, senior at the College & Career Day held in Clinton, Okla.*



*Pictured right: Senior Nashi McBrayer, sophomore Makayla Bird and sophomore Arlena Kirkendoll.*

# Special announcement from the People of the Sacred Land

It is with great excitement that I am officially notifying you that the \$20 million bond for the “Cultural Embassy” has passed.

This may be the first time in modern history that Native Nations, who were removed from their homelands, will have an official embassy that could help them develop a meaningful relationship with their homelands.

This revolutionary concept was developed by the members of the Truth, Restoration, and Education Commission (TREC) in the report on the legal and political history of the state of Colorado. The TREC report had specific recommendations for an embassy and cultural center.

Stacie Gilmore, member of the Denver City Council, read the TREC report and was shocked to learn the history of how Denver was taken from the Cheyenne and Arapaho People. She quickly and quietly took aggressive action to begin a process of restoration and conciliation on the part of

the city of Denver with the nations that were removed from their homeland. She has been described by Rick Williams, leader of the People of the Sacred Land, as an “Angel”. Rick believes there was divine intervention in making this dream come true.

For the first time in 160 years of existence, Denver has committed to Native Nations and to the local American Indian community, to create a new relationship that will change the future history of American Indians in Denver and Colorado. This victory was preceded by the heartwarming celebration of the first Indigenous Peoples Day.

The hearts of many Native People have been uplifted and filled with joy. Just look across the Front Range and see the beauty, and it will help you understand the significance of this action in the eyes of Native people. The minds of all our American Indian leaders and their vast communities they represent are developing visions for

what can happen to make a vibrant addition to the future of American Indians in Colorado and beyond.

Next steps, a Vision is a Dream, an Idea is a developing thought, and the Work is the reality. Today, we have a Vision and a dream come true. We must be nimble, creative, critical thinkers to develop the “IDEAS” that will lead to plans and work to make our dream a reality. We have taken the first step in a journey that can last forever.

Thanks to all who believed, to all those who doubted but were supportive, and to all the skeptics who doubted us and motivated us to change the future. Specific thanks to all the Denver Council members who listened intently and patiently to our story. To Mayor Johnson, who bravely raised the ante in the game, and to the voters of Denver. We need all of you going forward.

*In a good way, President Richard B. Williams, People of the Sacred Land*

## OBITUARIES

### Zayla Rose Lobaugh

Zayla Rose Lobaugh was born on March 29, 2025, in Ada, Okla., to Jacob Rashun Lobaugh and Kobi Cheyenne Crossley.

She died at OU Children’s Hospital in Oklahoma City on November 2, 2025.

Zayla is survived by her parents, Dametrius Lobaugh and Damon Crossley Lobaugh; sisters, Zoe and Zariah Lobaugh; grandmothers, Rebecca Lobaugh, Judith Poe, and Sommer Crossley; grandfather, James Crossley; great-grandmother,

Nina Crossley; great-grandfather, Lee Crossley; aunts, Jaylyn Lobaugh and Ariana Garcia; and uncles, Kale, Treydon, and Jaycee Crossley, Carlos Garcia, and Jonah Lobaugh.

Her great-grandmother and namesake, Rose Lobaugh, preceded her in death.

Wake services were held Nov. 7 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Funeral services were held Nov. 8, at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Concho



Idance Cemetery under the direction of Huber-Benson Funeral Home.



The Tribes offer up to \$500 to help honor your loved one with a beautiful headstone. Now is the perfect time to ensure they have a meaningful marker at their final resting place. We understand that making these arrangements can be emotional and overwhelming, so if you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to us. We’re here to support you every step of the way.

### CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES BURIAL PROGRAM

(405) 422-7594  
burial@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov



FOR THE APPLICATION





**\$200,000 in CASH**

**\$5,000**

**CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO  
TRAVEL CENTER**

**\$10,000**

**\$1,500**

LuckyStarCasino



Oklahoma City  
COMMUNITY  
CHRISTMAS DINNER

**FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 5  
6 PM - 8 PM**

**OKLAHOMA STATE FAIRGROUNDS**  
**The Pavilion in OKC Fair Park**  
**3212 Wichita Walk**



EMAIL: [SPECIALEVENTS@CHEYENNEANDARAPAHO-NSN.GOV](mailto:SPECIALEVENTS@CHEYENNEANDARAPAHO-NSN.GOV)