



Five Oklahoma tribes awarded \$1.6 million for housing initiatives

Federal Home Loan Bank Topeka’s Native American Housing Initiatives program supports tribal housing projects across Oklahoma

(SHAWNEE, Okla.) Five tribal entities were recently awarded \$1.6 million through the Native American Housing Initiatives (NAHI) Grants Program offered by the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLBank) Topeka. The projects will be executed in partnership with Sovereign Bank, a community bank wholly owned by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

“Safe and reliable housing creates a foundation for opportunity, stability, and long-term growth,” Sovereign Bank CEO Bryan Cain said. “When tribal communities have more resources to invest in housing and support programs, it creates stronger opportunities not just for today’s families, but for future

generations. It’s a true honor to work alongside these organizations as they bring those efforts to life.”

The NAHI program provides grant funding to federally recognized tribes and tribally designated housing entities to support housing initiatives benefiting tribal communities across Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma.

As a participating FHLBank member institution, Sovereign Bank worked alongside the tribal entities throughout the NAHI application process and will serve as the local banking partner for the awarded grant funding. The program supports a variety of housing-related initiatives, including down

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Through a partnership between Sovereign Bank Oklahoma and the FHLBank Topeka, five Oklahoma tribes received a combined total of \$1.6 million in NAHI (Native American Housing Initiatives Grants Program) funding. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Housing Authority in Clinton, Okla., received \$500,000. With that money, the Housing Authority plans to help support the acquisition of tiny homes for tribal veterans, provide down payment assistance for moderate-income households, and expand rental assistance options for tribal members not served by other programs. (Courtesy photo)

GET OUT THE NATIVE VOTE 'SKO VOTE DEN! NCAI Celebrates Supreme Court Win for Native Voting Rights

On June 30, 2026 the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) issued a statement on the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to uphold a Mississippi state law that allows for mail-in ballots to be accepted after Election Day as long as they are postmarked by Election Day. Native Americans face obstacles, such as transportation issues, that necessitate the need to utilize mail-in voting.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) notes that the Supreme Court of the United States upheld a Mississippi law that allows legally cast mail-in ballots to be accepted after Election Day as long as they are postmarked by Election Day. In many Tribal communities, voters face unavoidable delays from the United States Postal Service and other common carriers, which can result in disenfranchisement if their ballots cannot be collected and delivered to distant, state-designated locations in a timely manner.

Like Mississippi, many states have enacted similar legislation to ensure the voices of American voters in remote and rural areas – including the voices of many American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) voters – are still heard and included. As an amicus curia with the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) and others, NCAI and its attorneys at the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) brought to the Court’s attention these

very real logistical obstacles faced by millions of AI/AN voters.

Despite this positive ruling, Tribal Nations and their citizens must maintain vigilance over their hard-won voting rights, be aware of impediments and obstacles, and strategize now to ensure that their voices are heard in every election. Threats to AI/AN voting rights persist through regulations and executive orders that seek to impose administrative burdens on voting which disproportionately impact Tribal access to the electoral process.

“Since our founding over eighty years ago, NCAI has stood strong for Native voting rights in state and federal elections,” said NCAI Executive Director Larry Wright, Jr. “The Court’s decision ensures one less barrier to counting Native votes. NCAI remains dedicated to ensuring each and every Native voice is heard at the ballot box.”

Visit nativevote.org for more information and for available resources on how you or your community can help in the ongoing work of ensuring Native votes count. If your Tribal Nation, organization, or collective is committed to increasing civic participation and strengthening the political power of AI/AN communities.

NCAI calls on Tribal Nations and all Tribal citizens to exercise their civil liberties through voting at every election opportunity.



Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Gov. Reggie Wassana guest speaker at the American Legion Post 401 recruitment dinner held July 2 in Watonga, Okla.

American Legion Post 401 recruitment dinner marks new beginning

American Legion Post 401 took an important step toward rebuilding its membership during a successful recruitment dinner held July 2 at Lucky Star Casino in Watonga, Okla.

The evening brought together veterans, families, and community members to honor the legacy of Post 401 while looking toward its future. The program opened with the Advance of the Colors by the Post 401 Color Guard, followed by an opening prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a memorial tribute to fallen veterans presented by Kyle Spotted Horse.

Alan Fletcher welcomed those in attendance before dinner was served. The event was made possible through the support of Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ governor’s office, which sponsored the meal. Gov. Wassana also served as a guest speaker, sharing his appreciation for veterans and encouraging continued service through the American Legion.

Commander Jackie Turtle spoke about the mission of American Legion Post 401 and invited eligible veterans to become members. Post 401 was founded by dedicated tribal veterans, including Darrell

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Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act could support Oklahoma’s small Native businesses

By Alexandra de la Mora, Gaylord News

WASHINGTON – Taylor Martin, Chickasaw and Seminole Native, wife and mother, started her silversmithing studio, Cheyenne Sky Studio, in 2023 despite not obtaining financial support.

“I had to take it upon myself to decide to open the studio. I didn’t have savings or funds or anything to allocate towards it,” Martin said. “There’s not a lot of opportunities for loans, and occasionally you could get a grant, but even those are kind of hard to come by, so you just kind of have to figure out a way to fund your business.”

The Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act, first introduced in 2021 by Kansas Rep. Sharice Davids, a Native American Ho-Chunk tribe member, could solve that. Davids has reintroduced her Act in every Congress since then. It is now poised to become law if Davids can get the support she needs for it to be adopted by the Senate.

This act will help connect Native business owners with resources offered by the Small Business Administration, building entrepreneurial development, according to the report.

The Small Business Administration’s Of-

fice of Advocacy estimated in 2024 36,116 Native American-owned businesses were operating in Oklahoma, of which 32,000 were sole proprietors with no employees other than the owner.

Martin said this act could help her business receive grants to buy more equipment, expanding more opportunities for her customers.

Teaching over 6,000 students who have traveled across the state and out of state to attend her three-hour or six-hour intro classes to learn the craft of silver and metalsmithing.

“When you come into the studio, you get to have that experience,” Martin said. “You’re working with your hands, you’re being creative and having fun, but then you’re also leaving with that long-lasting piece of jewelry.”

Located in Oklahoma City’s Midtown neighborhood, Martin said operating her own business takes time and commitment in providing a space for people to build new skills.

The act’s promise to assist with manag-

See NAEOA pg. 6

Native Country Creative Arts aims to inspire the next generation through creativity

Rosemary Stephens, *Editor-in-Chief*

A new nonprofit organization is bringing big dreams to Native American youth across western Oklahoma, using art, film, theater, music and imagination to help young people discover their talents and believe in their potential.

Native Country Creative Arts (NCCA) was founded with a simple but powerful mission: to provide opportunities for Native youth to find their passion through creativity and imagination.

For the organization’s founders, creativity is about much more than painting a picture or performing on stage. It’s about building confidence, developing leadership skills, creating community and helping young people realize that their dreams are within reach.

“Our mission is to provide opportunities for Native youth,” Annette Nowlin, director for NCCA said. “We want to help them discover what they’re passionate about through creativity and imagination.”

NCCA plans to offer a variety of free camps and community events designed to expose young people to artistic and creative careers they may never have considered. Their first event, scheduled for the first week of August, will be a painting workshop for students ages 3 to 18. Participants will receive canvases, paint, brushes and instruction from experienced artists.

But painting is only the beginning.

Future plans include talent shows, fashion shows, theater camps and an innovative film camp where students will work together to write original scripts, act, operate cameras, edit footage and learn every aspect of filmmaking before showcasing their completed projects.

The organization also hopes to reward participation through incentives and, eventually, establish a scholarship program for Native students pursuing higher education.

Although the organization places a strong emphasis on serving Native American youth, its programs are designed to be inclusive.



Lucky Star Casino in Clinton, Okla., donates \$1,000 seed money to Native Country Creative Arts non-profit. Pictured is Shane McLaughlin OPS, Native Country Creative Arts Program Director Brandon Nowlin, Native Country Creative Arts Director Annette Nowlin, Johannah Pedro OPS and Justin Twins, Lucky Star General Manager. (Courtesy photo)

Native Country Creative Arts

MEET OUR TEAM

Annette Nowlin
Director
Board Member

Joshua Sorter
Operations Director
Board Member

Brandon Nowlin
Program Director
Board Member

Kassie Cross
Fundraising Coordinator

Native Country Creative Arts is dedicated to creating a safe, artistic space that fosters cultural identity, creativity, and personal growth for Native American youth.

Public Notice

The Concho Agency is currently taking landowner nominations for mineral tracts to be presented in the agency’s Winter 2026 and Spring 2027 Oil and Gas Lease sales. Nominations will be taken year-round.

Owners may nominate up to 3 tracts.

Tracts must be without a current lease or have unleased formations.

Only the nominations submitted by August 1st, 2026, from the present will be reviewed for the December 2026 sale. The remainder will be reviewed for the following Spring 2027 lease sale.

Nomination information will be used to request a review of the tract’s eligibility and process the nominated tract(s) for the next lease sale. To nominate your tracts or retrieve the form owners can reach out through several options.

Email at IA_Concho_Agency_Realty@bia.gov
Call and request the form at 405-452-2414
Mail at 1635 East U.S. Highway 66, El Reno, Oklahoma 73036.

Please include the following information in your request:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Phone

Email

DEAN'S

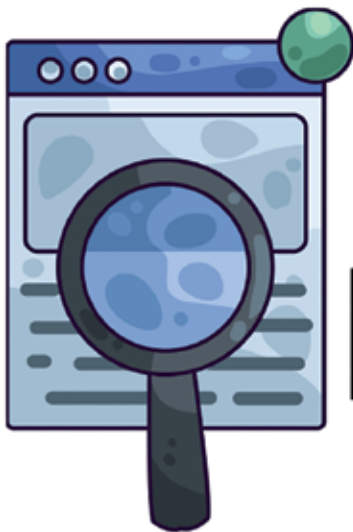
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NOTICE REGARDING ENROLLMENT OUTREACH

To assist the BIA in addressing a backlog of probate cases, Enrollment staff may reach out to you by phone or, in some cases, through private messaging on social media (not through public posts) to request any outstanding documents needed to complete your family’s probate package. These documents are essential for your case to be reviewed and scheduled for a hearing.

If we attempt to contact you, please know that our outreach is intended to help move your case forward as efficiently as possible. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in providing any requested information.

If you have been waiting on your family’s probate and have questions--or if you prefer to submit documents directly, please contact our office at (405) 422-7600.

DEPARTMENT OF ENROLLMENT

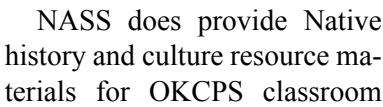
Enrollment_Dist@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

By Kimberly Burk, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

At ASU she met a man “who

When young people participate in NASS programs, Yellowfish said, "I definitely see a shift

Yellowfish said her goals include offering a Native Ameri-



Yellowfish received a bachelor of arts in communication from ASU and a master's degree and a Ph.D. in adult and higher education from OU.

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A message from the SORMA Office
For the CHR Movie night. If you are a registered sex offender planning to
attend these events, contact the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes SORMA
Office at (405) 422-7456 or in person at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
Justice Center located on 100 Black Kettle Blvd. Concho, OK 73022.

2010-2025 INDIGENOUS JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION MEDIA AWARD WINNER -- 2012-2017 AWARD WINNER OF THE OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST
2020-2025 SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST/OK CHAPTER MEDIA AWARD WINNER / Deadlines are the 8th & 23rd of each month unless date falls on weekend, will be the Friday preceding

OKLAHOMA INDIAN NATION POWWOW

HEAD STAFF

Color Guard – Buddy Bond

Honoring 36 Years of Tradition & Culture!

In 1990 James Hawk organized the Oklahoma Intertribal Veterans Color Guard. In 1993 the name was changed to the “Buddy Bond Color Guard” in memory of Ellis “Buddy” Bond who passed away too soon.

Members traveled to many powwows etc. In 1995 when the Murrah Federal building was bombed Gov. Walters called on 14 color guards to raise the flag. Buddy Bond Color Guard was

one invited.

James Hawk was also instrumental in founding the Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow Club in 1987 along with the Tallbear, Hamilton, Meeks and Whitebuffalo families.

Today the Buddy Bond Color Guard continues in activities across the country when called upon. We give our Thanks to all the Veterans and families that were members throughout these years.



Head Singer – Richard Deere

My name is Richard Deer and I am Cheyenne, Arapaho, Sac-N-Fox and Ioway. I am an enrolled citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. I currently reside in Albuquerque, N.M., and have three sons, GoodWarrior, Grant and RJ Deer.

I would like to like to

express my gratitude to the Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow committee for asking me to be head singer for this year’s powwow. Also, thank you to all those who attend this year’s celebration.

May Maheo’ bless you all with safe travels to and from your homes.



2026 Royalty Ambassador – Miss Navajo Nation Camille J. Uentillie

As your Miss Navajo Nation 2025-2026, also known as the Goodwill Ambassador for the Navajo Nation, my platform focuses on Elderly Care, Preservation of our Diné Language, and Addressing Water Issues on Navajo Nation Reservation (Diné Bikéyah). My mission is to support our elders, which means our language and stories will continue through our youth. By advocating for our water rights, we honor the land on which we grow and protect our existence as Caregivers (No-hookáá Diyin Dine’é). With each topic, we continue to recognize our interconnected relationship with Mother Earth, one another, and share family teachings.



Head Man Gourd Dancer – Willie Bullcoming

Hello my C&A People:

My name is Wilbur Bull Coming known to many as Will or Willie. I live here in the Redmoon Community in Hammon, Okla. My parents are the late Donal Bull Coming and Esther Miles Seger. My grandparents are the late Roy and Katheryn Bull Coming and John and Minnie Miles.

I have lived here in Hammon most of my life. My wife Edwina and I have three daughters, Tysha, Tiffany and Tawny. We share 11 grandchildren, six grandsons and five granddaughters.

I am also one of the Cheyenne Chiefs. I enjoy gourd dancing, MCing and participating in dances and powwows when called upon.

I am very honored to serve as the Head Man Gourd Dancer for the 2026 OIN. I would like to invite all the Chiefs, organizations and Gourd Clans to come out and dance and enjoy themselves at this year’s powwow.

Prayers and blessing to all throughout the weekend. Ha-Ho.



Head Lady Gourd Dancer – Michelle Tippeconnic

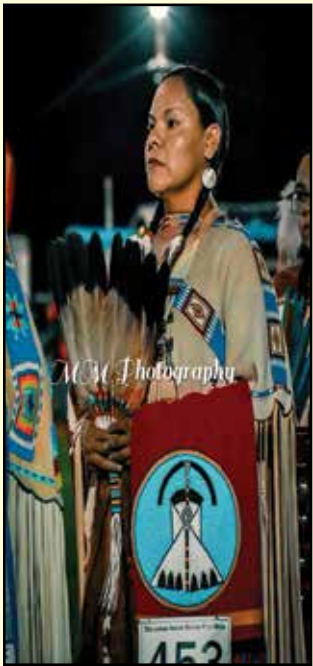
Michelle Tippeconnic is honored to serve as the Head Lady Gourd Dancer for this year’s OIN powwow celebration.

She is the daughter of the late Rev. Frank Kauahquo and Thelma Kay (Hoffman), granddaughter of Fred and Kathryn Hoffman and Jiggs and Jobyna (Kauahquo) Topah.

She is the proud mother of Isabella, a freshman at UC Berkeley, Kendall, a high school freshman, and Jasmine, a sixth grader.

Michelle obtained her Doctorate of Nursing Practice and is a Nurse Practitioner currently serving patients across the state as a wound care specialist. A highlight of her career was her time at El Reno IHS - where she loved serving as a primary care provider to her fellow tribal members.

Michelle resides in Washington, OK with her family. She would like to express her gratitude to the powwow committee and wishes everyone a wonderful weekend of singing, dancing and visiting.



Master of Ceremony – Marshal Williamson



Hô! Wăpimêha neteshitho. Nenemêthiwitho. Kishko. It is a blessing to serve our Native people. I’m enrolled Sauk, and I come from the Fish Clan. I also represent the Kiowa and Mvskoke Creek Nations.

My parents are Sonya (Reeder) Orange and the late Josh Williamson. My maternal grandparents are Elizabeth (Long) Reeder and the late Clifford Reeder. My paternal grandparents were the late Christine (Barker) Williamson and the late Mitchell Williamson. I am blessed with several nieces and nephews: Halina, Tushka, Mahli, Homaiyi, Wop, Hendrix, and my newest niece Sutv.

I am a third-generation

Arena Director/Master of Ceremonies in my family. My late kohn (grandpa) Clifford was a proud Marine, and an AD/MC in the 70s/80s. My late saygee (uncle) Derek Reeder was an AD in the 90s, when the Red Earth festival was at its peak. All three of us have primarily served in and near the OKC Native community since the 1970s.

I have grown up in the dance circle as a grass dancer, singer, arena director, and more recently as an MC. I am also a new member of the Kiowa Gourd Clan.

I hope all your camp fires burn hot, all those empty seats at your tables become full again, and that everyone receives a blessing. Ketepi!

Master of Ceremony – Burl Buffalomeat



My name is Burl Buffalo-meat. originally from Kingfisher Okla., by way of Seiling, Okla. Born in Clinton, Okla., I come from the Black Kettle family, my mother was a descendent from the Black Kettle family and I’m from the Buffalomeat family from the Ft. Marion fiasco that went on that took all of our chiefs.

Also my parents, Norma Jean Black-Buffalomeat, her twin sister along with numerous brothers and sisters coming from the Fonda area. On my dad side I come from Buffalomeat, well-known ledger artists and prisoner of war at Ft. Marion. I have four sisters, the late Rowena Beaver, Dana Buffalomeat, Susie Wolfmule and little sister Josephine Walker, we all love coming to this powwow throughout the years and I have been MC here before. It was a privilege to help out. I have been a MC at most of the C&A Labor Day powwows, Clinton and Lucky Star powwows and Watonga, Seiling powwows and Buffalomeat descendent powwows. I got an early start MCing and took a liking to it, 40 years of MCing, had a lot of great teachers and great advice, still going strong. I got to watch the older MC’s how they talked, how they worked. It is a privilege to be serving as one of the MC’s this year at the OIN. Come on out and enjoy yourselves. I am 63 years old, widowed, late wife, Theda, loved to come to these dances, and this powwow was one of her favorites. It’s always been a great powwow. Aho.

FLAGS TO BE HONORED



Friday

Ernest Simpson
U.S. Army



Saturday

Alvin Sage Sr.
U.S. Army
U.S. Navy



Sunday

Everett Yellowman
U.S. Marine Corps

Head Man War Dancer – Dwight Whitebuffalo

Hello My name is Dwight Whitebuffalo my Cheyenne name is Sunbear, Hiisiisiinox I am from the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and Lakota of Decent. My mother is the late Marie Nelly Whitebuffalo who was also a Champion Dancer. My father is Herbert Whitebuffalo 82nd Airborne of Watonga, Okla. My wife Paula Whitebuffalo, Yóókoxxuu Be’éíh, Red Willow Woman, is also a Southern Traditional Dancer and we currently reside in Canton, Okla.

My children are Diana Whitebuffalo who is currently serving in the National Guard. My eldest son Silas Whitebuffalo is the current holder of the World’s Men’s Fancy Dance Champion who also attends ASU College in Arizona. My youngest son Dwight Whitebuffalo Jr is also a Fancy Dancer. They currently reside in Minnesota in the Upper Sioux Community. I have danced all over the United States all my life and also was on the American Dance Theater and traveled all over the world. I got to dance for the richest Sheiks in the world in the United Arabic Emirates in West Asia. Also got to travel to Du Bai, Australia, France and Tokyo Japan. I’d like to thank the Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow 2026 for asking me to serve as their Head Man War Dancer. Aho.



Arena Director – Ralston Moore

My name is Ralston Moore. I am the great grandson of Sidney and Pearl Moore and Mary Osage Green. I am the grandson of Ted and Dycie Moore-Bravescout and the grandson of Thomasine Moore. I am the son of Randy and Melissa Moore and the father of Skyrei Maya Moore. I am an enrolled citizen of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma but also represent the Caddo, Pawnee, Prairie Band Potawatomi, Osage, and Sac n Fox Tribes.

I am a proud member of the Native American Church Bravescout Chapter and Pawnee Chapter. I am a Haskell Indian Nation University graduate with a Bachelor’s Degree in American Indian Studies and was a member of the Haskell Indian basketball team.

I enjoy being around and being a part of our Native culture and traditions as well as being around wonderful family friends. I enjoy dancing at our ceremonial dances as well as other tribes and enjoy dancing at powwows. I am very thankful and honored to serve as one of the arena directors for this year’s OIN powwow.



Indian of the Year – Dara Franklin

The new Oklahoma Indian Nation Powwow (OIN) committee has named Dara Franklin as Indian of the Year for the 36th annual OIN powwow.

Franklin served as the OIN chairperson for over two decades, stepping down last year in August 2025.

“I love going to powwows and so I talked to my dad about it. He said, well you know you’ve got to be around people, you got to treat people good, and welcome them, a lot of visitors come and I said, okay,” Franklin said.

Franklin would witness the crowds getting larger during the OIN powwow through the years and eventually a new parking lot was built, allowing more parking for visitors. Celebrities would be invited to the powwow, drawing more people in to attend throughout the years as it grew. By 2000, Franklin had become chairwoman. Over the next 25 years, she led with persistence and care, always listening to feedback and striving to make the powwow stronger each year.

Seeing participation from many people and the surrounding community is what brought the most joy to Franklin in her role as chairperson.

“Seeing our people, seeing our families, their flags, how well represented that our families that come for-

ward to recognize their family, especially those flags, that means a lot to our people,” Franklin said.

Through the different head staff, the donations and specials they’ve done to make the powwow better, to honor their families, Franklin said she “enjoyed seeing people have a good time.”

And by inviting people to feedings at OIN, making sure everyone was fed and bringing everyone together in unity for the powwow, it had accumulated through the years as it grew. Especially for the princesses.

Franklin remembers the first princesses of OIN, which were Tommye Dayle Simpson and Sarah Black. Then through the years, the committee started doing a penny a vote, where princesses would raise funds and some even raised as much as \$2,000, which helped take care of what was needed for the powwow.

As OIN continued to grow through the years, Franklin felt honored to be a part of the powwow and to witness the new addition of arbors built on the powwow grounds.

Passing on the role of the new chairperson of OIN to Randy Hawk and vice chair to Brad Blackcrow, a new committee will be announced for the powwow. Franklin and the rest of the OIN committee will continue to help assist when needed with the



new upcoming committee, showing them the ropes of what it took to run the ongoing OIN powwow.

“We’re going to help them move forward because they’ve been a part of it, they’re the Buddy Bond Color Guard and they’ve been a part of it this whole time, so they’ve always supported us.”

Franklin has spent over 30 years as the Indian Education Coordinator for Darlington Public Schools, mentoring and supporting Native American students. In recognition of her lifelong advocacy,

Head Lady War Dancer – Angela Littleman

Hello, I am Angela Littleman and I am proud to serve as Head Lady War Dancer this year at the Oklahoma Indian Nation’s 36th annual powwow.

My father is the late Cheyenne Chief Albert Littleman Sr., and mother is the late Sandra ‘Factor’ Littleman. My paternal grandparents are the late Paul and Nellie ‘Whiteshield’ Littleman and maternal grandparents are the late Bill and Harriet ‘Wise’ Factor.

I am Cheyenne and Seminole and once again honored to serve on head staff. My father was a Cheyenne Chief and my mother was a nurse. Their examples of leadership, compassion and dedication to others continue to guide my life.

I began my healthcare journey as a nurse’s aide in 2001 and in 2005 have proudly served as a licensed practical nurse. Over the years I’ve worked in a variety of nursing specialties, become a certified BLS instructor in 2023 and helped support a diabetes clinic through patience and education. Caring for others has always been more than a career, it’s a calling.

I am the proud single parent of six amazing children, Daniel, Addison, AnnMarie, Warren, Abbygail and Dakota, and the grandmother of two wonderful grandsons, Turtle and Peyote. One of my greatest joys is watching my children play sports, being present as they grow into adulthood. They all grew up in the arena and in our ceremonies. My family and friend are at the heart of everything I do.

I love dancing and am grateful for the opportunity to honor my Cheyenne and Seminole heritages in the powwow arena. Whether I am caring for patients, encouraging others, spending time with family or friends, or dancing, I strive to lead with respect, compassion, humility and gratitude.

Thank you again to the OIN powwow committee for asking me to serve on head staff. I’m truly honored and grateful for this opportunity to be part of this head staff. I also want to thank everyone who came out and supported the powwow, we appreciate you being here and helping make it meaningful.



Arena Director – Matias Waters

My name is Matias Waters and I am 40 years old. I am married to Amelia Waters and have four children, Ayonna, Marionna, Jeffrey Shane and Ma’Niya. My mother is Emily Redbird Waters and my grandparents are the late Parker and Annabelle Redbird. I work for the tribes in Concho and I am honored to be asked to serve as one of the arena directors for this year’s OIN powwow.



36TH ANNUAL

OKLAHOMA INDIAN NATION

POWWOW

JULY 31ST - AUGUST 2, 2026

CONCHO, OK

HONORING 100 YEARS OF RT.66 & OKLAHOMA'S LARGEST POWWOW ON RT. 66

THE OUTGOING OKLAHOMA INDIAN NATION'S ROYALTY

Sr. Miss: Yanna Yellowfish • Jr. Miss: Emily La'Miyah Gray • Little Miss: Parker Blessing

HEAD STAFF & SPECIALS

Color Guard: Buddy Bond

Masters of Ceremonies: Marshal Williamson

MC: Burl Buffoneet

Head Singer: Richard Deere

Head Man Gourd Dancer: Willie Bulcoming

Head Lady Gourd Dancer: Michelle Tippemcinnic

Head Man War Dancer: Dwight Whitebuffalo

Head Lady War Dancer: Angela Littleman

CO-HOST: Rezcovery Gourd Clan

Arena Directors: Ralston Moore & Matias Waters

2026 Oklahoma Indian Nation Royalty Ambassador: Miss Navajo Nation Camille J. Uentille

Vendor Coordinator: Ralph Tailbear

Princess Coordinator: David Bearshield

Contest Coordinator: Ralston Moore

OKLAHOMA INDIAN NATION POWWOW COMMITTEE

Chairman: Randy Hawk

Vice Chairman: Brad Blackcrow

Treasurer: Nathan Hart

Secretary: Ralph Tailbear

Committee Members: David Bearshield & Jimmy Anquoe Jr.

Senior Advisors: Pat Hawk & Dara Franklin

HONORED FLAGS

Friday - Ernest Simpson

Saturday - Alvin Sage

Sunday - Everett Yellowman

INDIAN OF THE YEAR 2026

DARA FRANKLIN

EL RENO

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NAEOA

continued from pg. 1

ing funding and development could help her hire a grant writer to find the grants she needs to explore more opportunities.

“That would be a great resource that I think a lot of Native American business owners could use,” Martin said. “We very rarely have the time. There’s a growing to-do list, always. So sitting down and applying to grants is kind of a lengthy process.”

In the Small Business Credit Survey’s 2022 national survey, the growing challenges for small businesses in general were financial friction.

The act will give the Office of Native American Affairs the access they need to the SBA’s entrepreneurial development program to ensure Native Americans establish their businesses with a firm foundation of resources.

According to the act’s record, it will help promote economic development in Native communities nationwide and create a bridge for small business owners to communicate more easily with administrators.

Chickasaw native Sandra and her husband JR Wesson, owners of Wesson Farms located in Caddo, Oklahoma, two hours south of OKC, have been producing fresh veggies from her farm since 2010 at the Durant Magnolia and Downtown Denison, Texas, farmers’ markets.

They are also active participants in regional indigenous and tribal agricultural events.

Wesson said she shares her culture through the foods she provides, whether it be the produce or a recipe

that was handed down.

“Chickasaw culture, we talk about the three sisters method in gardening, and that is squash, beans and corn,” Wesson said. “It’s not only the Chickasaw tribe that believes in that methodology of growing, but it’s been handed down for generations.”

Wesson said the biggest challenges for Native owners are having access to capital and modernizing their businesses. She believes the act could help tremendously with growing and overcoming hurdles for small businesses to maintain cash flow.

“There’s certain areas of development that native entrepreneurs could be supported in that we don’t have access to this information or the trainings or knowledge on how to do it,” Wesson said.

The report said the Native American Affairs office will work effectively on Indian Country’s behalf to strengthen capital and contracting needs of Tribes and Native businesses.

Tonya Woody an Otoe, Kiowa and Comanche Native, has worked alongside Acoma Pueblo Native Yolanda White Antelope, owner of Native Art & Jewelry, for 12 years promoting local native art.

Woody said she encourages Native businesses to continue to be opportunists and entrepreneurs. This act should help bring the guidance Native owners need to thrive.

White Antelope opened her shop in 2000 with her son after she retired from being an extradition officer of

the state Department of Corrections, and has received an outpouring of support since their grand opening after the store burned down in 2014.

“We weren’t sure if we’re gonna open back up, but all the stockyard people encouraged her to reopen and they donated all kinds of things,” Woody said.

“We picked right but and are stronger than ever.”

Martin said supporting Native-owned businesses helps increase the demographic of customers and bring the idea of collaboration and community over competition. Teaching her husband and daughters silversmithing has established her legacy within her family and to the OKC community.

“I think there’s a lot of sentimentality to people coming in deciding to invest in an experience,” Martin said. “The fact that it gets to be my business, I’m just really grateful for



Yolanda White Antelope, owner of Native Art & Jewelry, started in 2000 to share her culture and passion for creating art with others. (Photo provided by Native Art & Jewelry)

POST 401

continued from pg. 1

Flyingman, Harvey Pratt, and Eddie Wilson. With the recent passing of Pratt and Wilson, the effort to revitalize the post honors the vision and commitment of its founders while ensuring their legacy continues.

The recruitment dinner proved to be a success, resulting in five new members joining Post 401, with additional memberships expected in the coming weeks. Organizers were also pleased to announce that the American Legion Auxiliary has begun recruiting new members, strengthening the entire American Legion family.

American Legion Post 401 is committed to honoring the service and sacrifice of veterans, strengthening communities, mentoring youth, advocating for veterans and their families, and preserving the values of service, patriotism, and citizenship for future generations.

Post leaders expressed their appreciation to everyone who attended and especially thanked Gov. Wassana and his office for their generous support of the event. The successful evening marked not only the beginning of a renewed membership effort but also a renewed commitment to serving veterans throughout the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and surrounding communities.

Ledger Art Exhibition
Opens at Exhibit C Gallery

(OKLAHOMA CITY) – Exhibit C Gallery’s newest exhibition, “Records and Renderings,” explores the enduring practice of ledger art, showcasing the work of 10 First American artists who continue the powerful tradition of pictorial storytelling.

Vibrant figures and symbolic scenes unfold across historical ledger pages, weaving cultural narratives that document moments in time. This art style depicts personal and collective experiences, blending traditional techniques with contemporary storytelling.

The 10 featured artists include Dylan Cavin (Choctaw), Lokosh [Joshua D. Hinson] (Chickasaw), Brent Learned (Cheyenne and Arapaho), George Levi (Cheyenne and Arapaho), Halcyon Levi (Cheyenne and Arapaho), Dustin Mater (Chickasaw), Ronnie Morris (Cherokee), Dolores Purdy (Caddo), Candace Shan-holtzer (Choctaw) and Isaiah Stewart (Oglala Sioux).

Cheyenne and Arapaho citizen George Levi described his art as traditionally inspired, as he learned this art medium from his parents and grandparents.

“I am happy to be part of this exhibition as a Cheyenne artist, as ledger art originated amongst my Cheyenne people in the 1830s,” said Levi.

George Levi continues to pass the art form down to his own daughter, Halcyon Levi, who is also represented in this exhibition.

“The stories told to me by my parents shape my art,” said Halcyon Levi, “I tell a story about who I am not only as an artist but as a young Cheyenne woman.”

Halcyon Levi also said she uses her art as a tool to inform the public about her Cheyenne people.

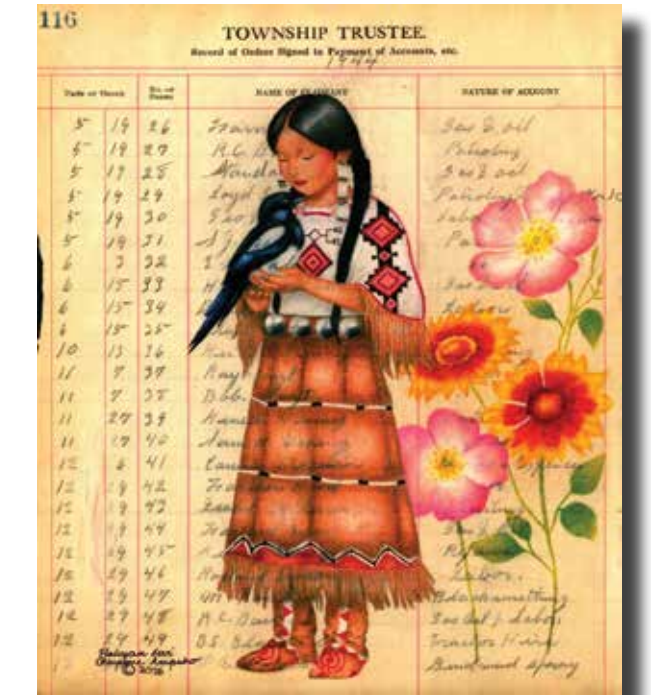
Caddo citizen Dolores Purdy said her work veers far from the usual imagery typically seen in most contemporary ledger art.

“Warrior Art’ is a common description of the ledger art style and was considered a male art form in the past,” said Purdy. “For nearly two decades, I have followed the gender specific traditional art form by using the same medium of antique paper and color pencils, only creating a contemporary version from a female perspective. (In) my work, the images can be humorous or serious while immersed in Native American heritage, iconography and pop culture.”

She said tongue-in-cheek humor, bright colors and vivid whimsical imagery are her way to stand out from the other ledger artists as well as honoring the ancestors.



Halcyon Levi



Ledger Art by Halcyon Levi

Owned & Operated by Cheyenne Arapaho Citizen

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Hammon, OK 73650

AUGUST 6 2026
3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
CANTON GYM
205 N. Jefferson St
Canton, OK 73724

AUGUST 11 2026
3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
CONCHO ERC
200 Wall Robt Cir
Concho, OK 73022

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MORE DETAILS, ACTIVITIES, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS COMING SOON!

HOUSING

continued from pg. 1

payment assistance, housing rehabilitation, strategic planning, technology improvements, staff development and new housing programs. “We designed the NAHI Program to provide our member institutions a flexible grant option to help the Native American communities they serve,” FHLBank Topeka President and CEO Jeff Kuzbel said. “They know best what’s needed to make a true impact on housing. We are proud to partner with Sovereign Bank through NAHI to support tribes throughout Oklahoma.” Organizations selected for NAHI funding in partnership with Sovereign Bank include: \$500,000 to Cheyenne and Arapaho Housing Authority in Clinton, Oklahoma Funding will help support the acquisition of tiny homes for tribal veterans, provide down payment assistance for moderate-income households and expand rental assistance options for tribal members not served by other programs. The initiative is intended to address housing

needs among some of the community’s most underserved populations. \$400,000 to Bah-Kho-Je Housing Authority in Perkins, Oklahoma The award will support the construction of two to three homes intended to replace previous RV housing for tribal members. Tribal leaders said the project aligns with long-term goals focused on stable housing, homeownership and sustainable community development. \$250,000 to Osage Nation in Pawhuska, Oklahoma The Osage Nation plans to use the funding to construct three tiny homes for homeless or at-risk veterans. In addition to expanding housing support, the project is expected to create local employment opportunities and contribute to regional economic activity. \$250,000 to the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma in Tahlequah, Oklahoma Funds awarded through the program will help construct two new homes des-

igned for tribal elders. The development is expected to strengthen community engagement while expanding access to safe and reliable housing. \$200,000 to Otoe-Missouria Tribe Housing Department in Red Rock, Oklahoma The project will provide home repairs and rental assistance for tribal members living within the community. Tribal representatives said the effort will help improve housing conditions while restoring aging homes for local families. Together, the five projects represent investments in housing stability, infrastructure and long-term community development. Through the NAHI program, tribal housing organizations can address local housing needs while creating opportunities that support future generations. Tribal entities interested in applying for future NAHI funding opportunities may apply during the program’s 2026 funding round, which remains open through Fri-

day, July 10. The program offers eligible applicants access to up to \$500,000 in grant funding for housing-related initiatives and community development projects. For more information, visit FHLBank Topeka’s website. To learn more about Sovereign Bank and its community initiatives, visit https://www.banksovereign.com. **About Sovereign Bank** Based in Shawnee, Oklahoma, with branches in Oklahoma City, Edmond, Midwest City, Lawton, Holdenville, Granite, Mangum, and Canute, Sovereign Bank is committed to providing personalized financial services to its communities. Chartered as First Oklahoma Bank in June 1983 and purchased by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in 1989, Sovereign Bank is dedicated to empowering local economies and providing innovative banking solutions. The bank’s assets exceed \$1 billion and its home office is located at 130 East MacArthur in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Member FDIC.

NCCA

continued from pg. 2

artist. About a year ago, the family launched Red Road Productions, a film production company that has already gained recognition after one of its films was selected for several film festivals. The fourth member of the founding team, Kasey Cross, brings creativity, leadership and community involvement to the organization. After working together on the Seeds of Seven Generations Gala in March, the founders knew Cross would be an invaluable addition because of her ability to generate ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively. She is also actively involved with the Indian Education Committee. Three members of the founding team, Joshua Sorter, Brandon Annette, are enrolled citizens of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, while Kasey Cross is a citizen of the Kiowa Tribe. Together, they share a common vision of creating opportunities that empower Native youth to embrace both their cultural heritage and their creative potential.

The idea for Native Country Creative Arts was born after Brandon and Annette attended a film symposium in Durango, Colo., following the premiere of one of Red Road Productions’ films at the Native Lens Film Festival. There, they witnessed firsthand how other tribal communities invest in their young people through the arts. One program that left a lasting impression was the Southern Ute Tribe’s annual film camp, where youth create their own films from start to finish, developing stories, acting, filming, editing and learning the many creative careers available in the film industry. Seeing the impact of those opportunities inspired the couple to bring similar experiences home. “I know my own children get opportunities that many Native youth may not have,” Annette said. “I want to be able to share those experiences with our tribal children. My hope is that they find something they love doing and understand that the world is so big and there are so many opportunities available for them. We just want to

provide those resources so they can see the potential they have in themselves.” As a newly established nonprofit, NCCA is currently operating through donations. The organization has already received generous support from West OK Co-op and a \$1,000 seed donation from Lucky Star Casino. Leaders also plan to pursue grants to expand programming and ensure future sustainability. While the organization’s programs are just getting underway, its founders believe they are planting seeds that will grow for generations. “Whether you choose to volunteer, attend an event or make a financial contribution, your support makes a lasting impact,” Annette said. “Together, we can empower Native American youth to dream boldly, discover their purpose and create a brighter future.” Through art, storytelling, performance and creativity, Native Country Creative Arts hopes to inspire the next generation of Native leaders ... not only to imagine what’s possible, but to create it.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DESIGN BUILD VETERANS TINY HOMES

INTRODUCTION The Cheyenne and Arapaho Housing Authority, located at 2100 Dog Patch Road, Clinton, OK is soliciting proposals for design build tiny homes on fee property owned by the housing authority. The site is located at 2401 Hefner, Rd. NE, El Reno, OK 73036 in Canadian County. Site will be graded to dirt ready to design and build on. Project will consist of 3 manufactured homes move-in ready, with water, sewer, and electric. Guarantee Maximum Price not to exceed \$360,000.00. A site visit is recommended before submitting proposal. Call Andres Lonebear 580-331-2415 to view property.

PREPARATION OF PROPOSAL Email of proposals sent to: housing@cheyenneand-arapaho-nsn.gov, Faxed (405) 422-8271, or hand delivered. Due August 1, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. CST

PRE-QUALIFICATION To be considered as eligible to submit a Proposal, Firm/Company/Individual must adhere to applicable laws in the State of Oklahoma. Firm must have demonstrated prior experience in construction design/build services in the proposal. Firm must have knowledge of tribal administration and tribal designated housing entity (TDHE) structure in Oklahoma. Firm must follow all local and state codes for residential construction. Bidders must not be on the “Unacceptable Risk Determination” list of the System for Award Management (SAM).

FORM OF PROPOSAL Proposals must consist of the following information: a) General cost of services breakdown with GMP, b) Structure of firm including staff resumes.

Bidders should carefully review the pre-requisites for bidding, which will be adhered to when reviewing the bids. Proposals will be evaluated to determine the bidder that is responsive to the solicitation and is most advantageous to the Owner, price, capacity, experience, and other factors considered. Native American preference given.

THE OWNER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WAIVE IRREGULARITIES AND TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS. ALL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED TO THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO HOUSING AUTHORITY ON ANY PROPOSAL BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO HOUSING AUTHORITY.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL GRANT WRITING SERVICES

INTRODUCTION The Cheyenne and Arapaho Housing Authority, located at 2100 Dog Patch Road, Clinton, OK is soliciting proposals from firms for grant writing services. Grants for housing may include U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Bureau of Indian Affairs Housing Improvement Program (HIP), Federal Home Loan Bank, U.S. Department of Energy, or other agencies that will assist housing programs. Fee and tribal trust properties will apply to grant proposal.

PREPARATION OF PROPOSAL Email of proposals sent to: housing@cheyenneand-arapaho-nsn.gov, Faxed (405) 422-8271, or hand delivered. Due August 1, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. CST

PRE-QUALIFICATION To be considered as eligible to submit a Proposal, Firm/Company/Individual must adhere to applicable laws in the State of Oklahoma. Firm must have demonstrated prior experience in grant writing services in the proposal. Firm must have knowledge of tribal administration and tribal designated housing entity (TDHE) structure in Oklahoma. Bidders must not be on the “Unacceptable Risk Determination” list of the System for Award Management (SAM).

FORM OF PROPOSAL Proposals must consist of the following information: a) General cost of services breakdown and b) Structure of firm including staff resumes.

Bidders should carefully review the pre-requisites for bidding, which will be adhered to when reviewing the bids. Proposals will be evaluated to determine the bidder that is responsive to the solicitation and is most advantageous to the Owner, price, capacity, experience, and other factors considered. Native American preference given. THE OWNER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WAIVE IRREGULARITIES AND TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS. ALL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED TO THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO HOUSING AUTHORITY ON ANY PROPOSAL BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO HOUSING AUTHORITY.



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PG-2025-0026

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73002

FILED JUN 30 2026
DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:)
E.R.B.) Case No. PG-2025-0026
Minor Child,

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: JESSICA WEBSTER
UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 30th day of **AUGUST 2026**, 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.

- Video conferencing for smart device users:
 - Zoom link:
 - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCentUZWVBOFhMbnM5OjRkTGtBODI09w
 - https://zoom.us/join
 - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - Passcode: Court2021
- Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:
 - Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799
 - Meeting ID: 452 425 1494
 - Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 30th day of June, 2026.


Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court



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PG-2025-0030

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73002

FILED JUN 30 2026
DOCKET PAGE
FILM IMAGE
COURT CLERK DEPUTY

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:)
S.U.N.) Case No. PG-2025-0030
Minor Child,

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: WISDOM NIBBS & ABIGAIL NEWMAN
UNKNOWN ADDRESSES

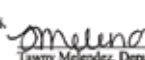
The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 30th day of **AUGUST 2026**, at **10:00 A.M.** in the courtroom, 100 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma.

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

Dated at the Trial Court this 30th day of June, 2026.


Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

Happy Birthday



Happy 15th Birthday my Love Bunny! You're such an amazing beautiful young lady keep up the good work Love your Galvan and Yellow Eagle family



Happy 5th birthday, Hudsyn! Mama and sisssy love you!

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes - CHR Program will host a blood drive with Our Blood Institute on the Bloodmobile on August 18, 2026.

- Group Name: Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes - CHR Program
- Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2026
- Location: 1950 S. Shepard - DOH Building in El Reno
- Time: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Goal: 8 successful donations



It's that time again, please come out to donate. For every donation, you save three lives. You can sign up on the portal or call the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes - CHR Program at (405) 295-1749. Let's make this a successful drive. Hope to see you there.

HEALTH BOARD MONTHLY MEETINGS			2026
JANUARY 18	FEBRUARY 8	MARCH 8	
TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CONCHO ERC 200 WOLF ROSE CIRCLE CONCHO, OK 73022	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: DOH BLDG 4400 S.W. 21 ST ST. OKLAHOMA CITY, OK	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CONCHO ERC 200 WOLF ROSE CIRCLE CONCHO, OK 73022	
APRIL 2	MAY 18	JUNE 22	
TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CLINTON ERC 215 DOG PATCH RD. CLINTON, OK 73001	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: DOH BLDG 1950 S. SHEPARD AVE. EL RENO, OK 73036	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: WOODWARD ERC 43554 COUNTY RD. WOODWARD, OK 73001	
JULY 3	AUGUST 6	SEPTEMBER 3	
TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CONCHO ERC 200 WOLF ROSE CIRCLE CONCHO, OK 73022	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CONCHO ERC 257210 E. 820 RD. WATONGA, OK 73772	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CONCHO ERC 200 WOLF ROSE CIRCLE CONCHO, OK 73022	
OCTOBER 1	NOVEMBER 5	DECEMBER 3	
TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CANTON ERC 205 N. JEFFERSON RD. CANTON, OK 73724	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: CONCHO ERC 200 WOLF ROSE CIRCLE CONCHO, OK 73022	TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM LOCATION: KINGFISHER ERC 400 W. ERWIN ST. KINGFISHER, OK 73750	

PG-2026-0019

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHOTRIBESOF OKLAHOMA

IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOTRIBES OF OKLAHOMA

P.O. BOX 102

CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKETPAGE

FILMIMAGE

COURT CLERKDEPUTY

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:

MARION RUTH REDBIRD

DOB: 09/16/1977

Case No. PG-2026-0019

An Alleged Incapacitated Adult.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: BLESS MIRANDA

UNKNOWN ADDRESS

TAKE NOTICE that *Pauline White Tail-Duckai*, has filed in this Court a Petition for Guardianship of, MARION RUTH REDBIRD, 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 21st day of JULY, 2026 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.

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

Video conferencing for smart device users:

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCentUZWV0OFMhMnl5QjRlcTdhOTQ9>

Meeting ID: 452 425 1494

Passcode: Court2021

Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:

Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799

Meeting ID: 452 425 1494

Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 2nd day of July, 2026.

Lafreda Whitecrow, Chief Court Clerk

Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CIV-2026-0039

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHOTRIBESOF OKLAHOMA

IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOTRIBES OF OKLAHOMA

P.O. BOX 102

CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKETPAGE

FILMIMAGE

COURT CLERKDEPUTY

In the Matter of:

KYAH CHAFFOLD

Vs.

LASHANIQUE MASON

Case No: CIV-2026-0039

Plaintiff,

Defendant,

CIVIL SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOTRIBES TO: Lashanique Mason

Address Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN ANSWER to the Petition for Protective Order 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 18th day of June, 2026.

Lafreda Whitecrow, Chief Court Clerk

Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

PG-2026-0021

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHOTRIBESOF OKLAHOMA

IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOTRIBES OF OKLAHOMA

P.O. BOX 102

CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKETPAGE

FILMIMAGE

COURT CLERKDEPUTY

In the Matter of the Guardianship of:

S.L.H.

Case No. PG-2026-0021

A Minor Child,

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: ED HAYS

UNKNOWN ADDRESS

TAKE NOTICE that *Stephanie Wolfe*, has filed in this Court a Petition for Guardianship of, Minor Child, S.L.H., 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 21st day of JULY, 2026 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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Meeting ID: 452 425 1494

Passcode: Court2021

Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:

Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799

Meeting ID: 452 425 1494

Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 2nd day of July, 2026.

Lafreda Whitecrow, Chief Court Clerk

Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CIV-2026-0041

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHOTRIBESOF OKLAHOMA

IN THE TRIAL COURT

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOTRIBES OF OKLAHOMA

P.O. BOX 102

CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

DOCKETPAGE

FILMIMAGE

COURT CLERKDEPUTY

In the Matter of:

EMILY HAWK

Vs.

TREVOR BELL

Case No. CIV-2026-0041

Petitioner,

Respondent,

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: TREVOR BELL

UNKNOWN ADDRESS

The above-styled case is hereby set for hearing in the Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes on the 12th day of AUGUST, 2026, 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.

Video conferencing for smart device users:

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4524251494?pwd=S2RCentUZWV0OFMhMnl5QjRlcTdhOTQ9>

Meeting ID: 452 425 1494

Passcode: Court2021

Phone conferencing for non-smartphone or traditional telephone users:

Telephone number: 1 (346) 248-7799

Meeting ID: 452 425 1494

Passcode: 854454251

Dated at the Trial Court this 6th day of July, 2026.

Tawny Melendez, Deputy Court Clerk

Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

Calendar of Events

76th annual Indian Hills Powwow

July 22 - 26, 2026 at the Indian Hills Powwow grounds, 8980 N. Sooner Road in Oklahoma City.

Head Staff: MCs Alan Fletcher and Mike Burgess, Keeper of the Drum Leonard Cozad Jr., HS Sidney Toppah, HM Newton Kimble, HL Hauli Gray, HG Kendricks Sleeper, ADs Matias Waters and Ashlee Kerchee, Honored Elder Jonnie McKibben Clemons, Honored Veteran Bruce Caesar, Waterboys Touchcloud Watan and odesto Schonchin and Honor Guard Seminole Nation. For vendor information call 405-641-7135.

36th annual Oklahoma Indian Nation Powwow

July 31 - Aug. 2, 2026 at the Concho Powwow Grounds in Concho, Okla.

Head Staff: Color Guard Buddy Bond, MCs Marshal Williamson and Burl Buffalomeat, HS Richard Deere, HMGD Willie Bullcoming, HLGD Michelle Tippeconic, HMWD Dwight Whitebuffalo, HLWD Angela Littleman, Co-Host Rezcovery Gourd Clan, ADs Ralston Moore and Matias Waters and 2026 Oklahoma Indian National Royalty Ambassador Miss Navajo Nation Camille J. Uentillie.

Honored Flags: Friday-Ernest Simpson, Saturday-Alvin Sage and Sunday-Everett Yellowman. Indian of the Year 2026 - Dara Franklin.

91st annual American Indian Exposition

Aug. 12-15, 2026 at the Caddo County Fairgrounds in Anadarko, Okla.

Third annual Overdose Memorial & Cirrhosis Awareness Dance-All Nations Rezcovery Benefit Dance

Aug. 15, 2026 at the Watonga Emergency Response Center in Watonga, Okla. 2 p.m. Gourd dance, 5 p.m. supper. If you would like to submit a photo of a loved one lost to overdose/cirrhosis please email them to info@rezcovery.org.

MC Isaac Rhoads, HS Creg Hart, HM Kenny Williams, HL Janaya McIntosh, Miss Indian Oklahoma, HTB Dyson Ellis, HTG Amber Beard, AD Matias Waters, Co-Host Comanche Nation Prevention & Recovery. Vendors welcome, contact Carmello Reveles at 405-788-0703.

2026 Cheyenne and Arapaho Labor Day Powwow

Sept. 4-7, 2026 at the Colony Powwow grounds in Colony, Okla. Gourd dance daily at 2 p.m. Grand Entries Friday Sept. 4, 8 p.m., Sept. 5-7, 7 p.m.

Head Staff-Cheyenne: MC Max Bear, HS Joel Motah, HMD TBA, HLD Crystal WhiteShield, HGD Cato Red Hat. Head Staff-Arapaho: MC James Sleeper, HS OT Sankey and Phoenix Whiteshirt, HMD Brycen Whiteshirt, HLD Regina Youngbear, HGD Robert Tabor. Color Guard Buddy Bond. Memorial Flags: Friday, Deforest 'Mock'TallbeR, USMC, Saturday, Johnny Fletcher, USMC, Sunday, Rollin Haag Sr., US Navy, and Monday Lavona Mae Birdshead, US Army.

For more information contact Richard Deer at 405-889-6949, Wilma Blackbear at 580-791-1689 or Amick Birdshead at 580-210-3345.

All Nations Rezcovery 2nd annual Powwow

Sept. 19-20, 2026 at the Concho Powwow grounds in Concho, Okla. Gourd dance 1 p.m., supper break 5 p.m., Grand Entry 7 p.m. Saturday contests Tiny Tots, Juniors Teens. Sunday contests Golden Age Men & Women, Womens and Mens, dancers must make one Grand Entry.

MC Isaac Rhoads & Carmello Reveles, HS Bullet Watan, HM John Soap Jr., HL Georgia Harjo, Miss Indian OU, HMG Derek Tofpi, HLG Lydia West, ADs Brian Felder & Bobby Cometsevah, Co-Hotst Starhawk Society, Colord Guard MCN Womens Honor Guard and Honored Flags, Saturday Manuel Kniefchief, U.S. Army and Sunday Arleigh Rhoads, U.S. Marine Corps.

You're Invited

NATIVE COUNTRY CREATIVE ARTS

Paint Party

AUGUST 9TH

1 PM TO 5 PM

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ART EXHIBIT

continued from pg. 6

Chickasaw citizen Lokosh [Joshua D. Hinson] said he began ledger work during the pandemic.

“Beyond the visual quality to the aged paper,” said Lokosh, “I like the idea of indigenizing things from foreign sources, taking what was once not ours and making it something that reflects who we are as Indigenous people in 2026.”

He said the imagery he uses is varied, ancestral designs, birds, plant medicines, allotment maps, but it all reflects who he is as a contemporary Chickasha man living and working in the present.

Choctaw artist Dylan Cavin said his ledger work begins with the documents themselves, land deeds, county tax rolls, funeral home registers, the administrative paper trail of a system that sought to quantify and contain Indigenous life.

“I’m drawn to these particular records because they already tell a story, just not *our* story,” said Cavin. “By working directly on their surfaces — in ink and colored pencil, in the ledger art tradition that stretches from Plains hide painting through the Fort Marion prisoners — I’m bringing it back to that Native story, reauthoring the document from the inside out.”

He said as a Choctaw artist, ledger art isn’t a historical style he is revisiting; it’s a living visual language for articulating sovereignty, survival and belonging in Indian Territory and beyond.

“The land these records describe is the same land my family has occupied for generations,” said Cavin. “That overlap, between colonial bureaucracy and Indigenous continuity, is where my work lives.”

Together, these works honor a legacy of creativity and adaptability, a testament to the resilience, ingenuity and artistic expression of First American people.

Exhibit C Gallery, located at 645 First Americans Blvd. in Oklahoma City, is open Wednesday through Monday from 10 a.m.



George Levi



Brent Learned

to 6 p.m. For more information on Exhibit C Gallery, visit ExhibitCGallery.com.

About Exhibit C Gallery

Exhibit C Gallery, Oklahoma City’s premier First American fine art gallery, is a 10,000-square-foot gallery space in the Horizons District of Oklahoma City. Proudly owned by the Chickasaw Nation, Exhibit C Gallery showcases a variety of fine art mediums by First American artists enrolled with a federally recognized tribe. Exhibit C strives to generate awareness and offer exposure for First American artists through fine art sales and superior customer service.

OBITUARIES

Sheila Marie Azhnick Birdshead

Sheila Marie Azhnick Birdshead, 47, of Oklahoma City, passed away at her home on July 4, 2026. Sheila was born on July 8, 1978, in Oklahoma City, to Wilbur Birdshead and Maureen Keo. She grew up in Shawnee, Okla., and spent most of her life in Oklahoma City. Sheila worked as a cashier and blackjack dealer at Black Hawk Casino before later working at Lucky Star Casino. She was known for her warm, friendly personality, her contagious laugh, and her genuine willingness to help others. She loved music, especially R&B and her favorite slow jams. She also enjoyed going to yard sales, shopping at thrift stores, and, above all, spending time with her family. Her greatest joy in life was her children, grandchildren, and loved ones. Sheila will always be remembered as a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She touched the lives of many with her kindness

and caring heart and will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. Sheila’s love, laughter, and generous spirit will remain in the hearts of her family and friends forever.

She is survived by her husband Leonardo Suarez, her children, Kasie Birdshead, Alex Hornsby, Kristopher Hornsby, Maria Suarez, and Ciara Suarez, all of Yukon, Okla., her mother Maureen Keo of Kickapoo Reservation-Kansas, her father Wilbur Birdshead of Yukon, her grandchildren, Emiliano Birdshead, Daniel Ramirez, Kristopher Hornsby Jr., Gina Hornsby, Kayden Hornsby and Alexander Hornsby Jr., her brothers, Wilbur Birdshead Jr. and wife Tehauno of Perkins, Okla., Geoffrey Birdshead of Hammon, Okla., Dayle Birdshead of Hammon, and Jason Mertzig of Elmira, New York; as well as many beloved grandchildren, aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives and many friends.



She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Wilma Meeks, Stephen Birdshead, Aileen Wahwasuck, Keith Keo, and Vinita Karty, and by her uncles, William Charles Birdshead and Jack Dean Keo.

Wake services were held July 8 at the Concho Emergency Response Center in Concho, Okla. Funeral services were held July 9, at the same venue, with Rev. Doyeto officiating, followed by an interment at the Concho Indian Cemetery under the direction of Turner Funeral Home.

Trina Verjan

With profound sadness, we announce the passing of Trina Verjan, who passed away peacefully on July 2, 2026, at the age of 70.

Trina was born on Oct. 9, 1955, in Los Angeles, Calif. She lived a life filled with love, kindness, strength and unwavering devotion to her family, friends and community. She was known for her generous heart, compassionate spirit and the warmth she shared with everyone she met.

A dedicated public servant, Trina devoted many years of her life to caring for others. She proudly served as an EMT with Cheyenne and Arapaho EMS, where she found her true calling in helping members of her tribal community during their times of need. Her commitment, leadership, and compassion eventually led her to become the Director of Cheyenne and Arapaho EMS. Even after stepping down from that role due to health challenges, her desire to serve never wavered. She continued caring for her community as a Triage Receptionist at Clinton Indian Health Services, where she greeted every patient with kindness and compassion.

Above all else, Trina cherished her family. She took great pride in being a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend. She found joy

in making handmade blankets for her loved ones and creating beautifully beaded medallions for her grandchildren, gifts that will forever be treasured. Her happiest moments were those spent surrounded by family.

Trina also had a vibrant spirit and a love for life’s simple pleasures. She loved music and, in her younger years, enjoyed going out dancing with friends and family. She often smiled as she reminisced about riding horses bareback along the beach as a teenager, memories she held close to her heart throughout her life.

Trina is lovingly remembered by her children, Armando Ochoa, Victor Ochoa, Angela Medina, Fabian Medina, Reynaldo “Jr.” Medina, and Lorena Dominguez; her beloved grandchildren, Capella, Anastazia, Andollina, Fabian, Adriana, Jose, Nico, Harland, Zillian, Amaya, Alina, Ariana, and Eben; her cherished great-granddaughter, Rosi; and her sisters, Christina Medina, Yvonne Verjan, Laura Verjan, Jesse Verjan, and Anna Chanvech-sat.

She was preceded in death by Jesus Verjan, Lorena Hawk, Victor Verjan, Rosi Verjan, Victoria Osbourn, and Ella Dominguez.

Those who knew Trina will remember her for her compassion, resilience, infectious sense of humor,



and the unconditional love she gave so freely. She had an incredible ability to make people feel cared for, whether they were family, friends, coworkers, or complete strangers. Her wisdom, strength, and gentle spirit touched countless lives and will forever remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. Although she is no longer with us in person, Trina’s love, kindness, and legacy of service will continue to live on through her children, grandchildren, great-granddaughter, family, and the many lives she touched throughout her years of caring for others.

She will be deeply missed, forever loved, and never forgotten.

Wake services were held July 7 at the Clinton Emergency Response Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral services were held July 8, at the same venue under the direction of Lockstone Funeral Home.

WELLBRIETY[®]
MOVEMENT

WELLBRIETY TALKING CIRCLE : EVERY WEDNESDAY@ 7PM

EVERYONE WELCOME, REFRESHMENTS SERVED

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

Tribal Foster Families Needed

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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
103-422-6101
lkould@cheyenneandrapaho-tribes.gov

Every Child needs a Family



Cheyenne Language and Culture Program at Pikes Peak Mountain in Colorado. Pictured: Amick Birdshead, Ralph TallBear, Iven Hawk, Michael Elizondo and Rainey Faris. (Submitted photo)

Office of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Disability Event

Friday July 24th

★ ALL VETERANS ARE WELCOME ★



Concho Oklahoma

Respect Gym

8am-5pm



Submit Disability Claims and Increases



Enroll in VA Healthcare / Get Login.gov & VA Card Info



Widows and Families of Veterans are encouraged to attend. Bring ALL Veteran related documents



Onsite Toxic Exposure Screenings



ALL Veterans Welcome, Lite Breakfast and Free Lunch Served, Door Prizes, T-Shirts for Veterans



On site VA Mobile Medical Units will be Onsite for Medical Examinations



**WE SERVED. WE STAND TOGETHER.
WE SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER.**

OVA

405-422-7724



FREEDOM RIDE



LUCKY STAR CASINO

WIN 1 OF 19

2026 INDIAN MOTORCYCLES

DRAWINGS AT LUCKY STAR CONCHO, CLINTON, CANTON, HAMMON, WATONGA AND CONCHO TC

One (1) Motorcycle will be given away at each location on Saturday, July 11TH, 18TH and 25TH at 11pm.

DRAWINGS AT LUCKY STAR GEARY

One (1) Motorcycle will be given away at this location on Saturday, July, 25TH at 11pm.



Earn entries starting **MONDAY, JULY 6, 2026**

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

Motorcycle shown not actual prize. Winner must be present to win and may only win once per promotional period. Promotions valid during Players Club hours only. Management reserves all rights to cancel or modify any or all promotions without prior notice. See Players Club for full details on this promotion. ©2026 Lucky Star.

