# The Gathering

# April 2023

Sovereign Nation of the Chiricahua Apache SNOCA Chiricahua Apache Nation CAN CANOMA 501(c3) Public Charity 170b

### Chiricahua Apache Nation Council

Tribal Chair:

Robert Chokonen Van Fleet

Tribal Vice Chair:

**Brad Hamilton** 

Chokonen Medicine Leader:

**Bobby Cruz** 

**Tribal Council:** 

Susie Durham

**Tribal Council:** 

Diane Summer Rain Naranjo

# Citizen's Corner

April 28, 2023 Albuquerque, NM Blue Mountain Tribe

Chiricahua Apache Nation has learned that a couple of our own citizens will be performing at the world's largest pow wow alongside bandmates. Blue Mountain Tribe will be performing at the Gathering of Nations, what an experience!

Congratulations Blue Mountain Tribe - very exciting! We are so very PROUD.

The Tehachapi News article is posted on our website - check it out!

We have so many strong and talented citizens – let's celebrate! Email Citizen's Corner nomination to info@chiricahuaapachenation.org

## **Moving Forward**

We welcome citizens to join us each month for the Open Council Meeting - we open the meeting up to citizen questions, comments and/or concerns. Should you have something but would prefer to remain anonymous, email <a href="mailto:info@chiricahuaapachenation.org">info@chiricahuaapachenation.org</a> and the request will be addressed.

A few items have been added to Citizens Corner on the website - we encourage you to check it out.

We are interested in hearing from citizens - ideas, concerns, anything - Council is here to represent the people!

#### The Cattail

On social media a question had been asked if the cattail is important to the Chiricahua Apache and the answer - Yes it is!

Cattail are an integral part of Chiricahua Life Way from our beginnings in our Creation Story to daily use for eating. medicine, and shelter. Cattail was also used to make weapons. like arrow shafts. Many of the parts of the cattail during the growing season are edible, such as cooking the young green shoots to eat whole or mashed, and the pollen (a good source of protein) can be collected and mixed with other items such as when making ash cakes. The roots may also be ground into flour and used to thicken soups. The reeds have been used for such items as straws and woven mats, and the lower female flower (brown sausage shape) is absorbent used for padding, diapers, feminine products. As with all life, we are interconnected and there is responsibility to sing and take care in harvest with reciprocity, never taking more than is needed to help maintain the delicate balance of all the life in the area where cattail grow. For more information about our Creation Story and spiritual use of cattail pollen, please reach out for a conversation with our Spiritual Elder <a href="mailto:bcruz@chiricahuaapachenation.org">bcruz@chiricahuaapachenation.org</a>.



May Open Council Meeting May 10th, 2023 - 6:30pm MST

Zoom link posted www.ChiricahuaApacheNation.org

Citizen participation welcome: questions, comments, concerns

Website:

www.ChiricahuaApacheNation.org

info@chiricahuaapachenation.org Social: @SNOTCA







