In one week, the Kiowa Tribe handed out, or mailed, over 1100 checks to happy Elders in-state and around the country. Kiowa Elder Payment Week culminated in a huge celebration in Red Buffalo Hall in Carnegie, OK. The Seniors started arriving around 9am. After visiting with friends and relatives, the announcement was made that the checks were ready to be distributed. Kiowa Chairman Matt Komalty, Vice-Chairman Charles Eisenberger, and District 2 Legislator Rhonda Ahhaitty were at the podium to give their greetings and well-wishes to the honored guests. The attendees included visitors from New York to California. For entertainment, the Kiowa Head Start kids crowded on stage to sing Holiday songs. Kiowa Elder Sonny Tartsah also joined the entertainers by singing "Joy to the World" in English and Kiowa. The event was streamed live on the Tribe’s Facebook page, “Kiowa Tribe.” Over 1,100 viewers commented that they enjoyed seeing the Elders have a good time. Facebook also allowed the Seniors to deliver personal Christmas greetings to their out-of-state family members. A microphone was circulated around the room so the Elders could extend the wishes. The video is available on the Tribal Facebook page, “Kiowa Tribe.”

This year’s journey began on Monday, December 4th at Remington Park in Oklahoma City, where more than 200 Kiowas were treated to a barbeque meal along with their checks. The event was also streamed live on Facebook, as was the Hard Rock Casino event for the Tulsa area Kiowa Elders. Along with greetings from Tribal dignitaries, several Kiowas stood up and talked about the pride in being Kiowa. There was a call to recognize Kiowa Veterans by Vice-Chairman Eisenberger. The Veterans stood to applause by the crowd. All three events were tremendous successes.

"I Thank everyone that came today. We’re blessed. We’re blessed everyday. Thank the Lord everyday. My sister was sick, now she is well, so this is a blessing to me." -Charlote Taylor

"I seen a lot of people getting reacquainted with relatives. Service men and women, wherever they may be, bring them home for next year." -Louie Stumblingbear.

"I wish we could always be like this...as Kiowas meeting together with no animosity. That’s my wish to the Kiowas." -Martha Koomsa.
Kiowa Black Leggings Honor Ft. Sill Invitation

November 30, 2017 was a big day for the Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society veteran Lyndreth “Tugger” Palmer (Commander) and Blas Preciado (Vice Commander). The Ft. Sill Army base has hosted a luncheon for recognition of Native American Month. Other tribes were represented as well including the Chickasaw and Comanche tribes. The theme set for National American Heritage Month, as provided by the Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) was “Standing Together.” Honoring the American Indian and Alaska Native people whose contributions, achievements, sacrifices, and cultural (and, or historical legacy) of the original peoples to what is known as the United States. They have been the bedrock of our nation from the beginning. It is the warrior spirit that is strong in American Indian and Alaska Native cultures. Legend reflects that a warrior never dies but arises in a vision as a spirit or ghost warrior to guide, protect, and lead subsequent generations. Vice-Commander Preciado couldn’t help but get a little emotional as he reflected his life during his speech. He said that this was a big task, reflecting the Kiowa Black Leggings in such a way that it made him very humble to even be asked. Nevertheless he expressed how honored he was to be given the responsibility by the Kiowa Black Leggings Commander, Lyndreth Palmer. “One of the highlights of my life is spirituality,” expressed Preciado, “another was my works being displayed in a gallery.”

The Kiowa Tribe recently opened 3 program offices in Anadarko, OK at 806 Wynan Court. Pictured at the ribbon cutting are Board Member of the Kiowa Tribe Preciado said, "When I saw this theme ‘standing together’, I wondered what that meant and what I would talk about. Then as I thought about my life and time in the Marine Corps, I thought of the man standing next to me…” He went on to say that it didn’t matter what race each individual was in the same uniform. “We may have been different races, but we all fought together and died together for this country.” As Preciado finished his speech, smiles and applause was heard throughout the room. He was surprised by the presentation presented to him after and Palmer was the first to hug and congratulate him. A lot of the service man there wanted to know more about Kiowa Black Leggings and several had the opportunity to take pictures with the two commanders and ask questions. I spoke to Mr. Palmer briefly after it was all over, he spoke to me in Kiowa. He spoke of his honor in being able to represent the Kiowa Black Leggings and his pride in Preciado for stepping up to the task. He said it was a good day to be indigenous. As he was leaving and Preciado was taking pictures and shaking hands. I thought to myself ‘it really is a good day to be native and to be Kiowa. Of all the tribes represented it was the Kiowa that had been asked to deliver a speech in front of everyone. Nevertheless he expressed how honored he was to be given the responsibility by the Kiowa Black Leggings Commander, Lyndreth Palmer. “One of the highlights of my life is spirituality,” expressed Preciado, “another was my works being displayed in a gallery.”

Kiowa Tribe Observes Native American Month - by Dianna Hadley, Staff Writer

The Kiowa Tribe was the highlight for two “Rock Your Mocs” events on November 15, 2017. KADAP (Kiowa Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program) hosted a walk event through the streets of Anadarko. Posters as well as a medicine wheel were included, during the walk, to show that no matter what tribe, we can work together and create awareness for all indigenous people. The Kiowa Tribe also partnered with the Carnegie Indian Education Program to host a "Rock Your Mocs" assembly at Carnegie Public Schools high school gym (Boop City). The assembly included live singing and service men, special invited poet Matt Komalty, Chairman of the Kiowa tribe and Kiowa speaker Shawn Mark Hill, member of the Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society. The “Rock Your Mocs” annual event was established in 2011, it is best described as a nationwide Native American and Indigenous social media event held annually and during Native American Heritage Month. People wear moccasins and post them on the internet tagging them with #ROCKYOURMOCs or #RYMPhotos thus creating an online photo-album. “It’s like a big fun moccasin party that everyone gets to see,” explains founder Jessica “Jaylin” Anye of Laguna Pueblo, New Mexico. The pictures posted a send a message: unit ed we stand as indigenous people through our tribal individuality by symbolically wearing our moccasins to honor our ancestors and indigenous people worldwide.

The Kiowa Tribe News is a monthly publication. Kiowa News staff reporters are members of the Native American Journalism Alliance (NAJA). The Kiowa Tribal Chairman fully supports the “Rock Your Mocs” as it reads in the Kiowa constitution, Article 1, Bill of Rights, Section b.

"The government of the Kiowa shall not make or enforce any law which prohibits the freedom of speech, expression or the press in the right of the People peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for redress of grievances.”

Kiowa Now is a publication. Kiowa News staff reporters are members of the Native American Journalism Alliance (NAJA).
Donald J. "Jay" Brooks is from Lovelace, Kansas and a former student of the Kiowa tribe. He attended Elgin High School in 2007. His parents are Marilyn Kodaseet and the late John Kodaseet. His siblings include Eric, Connie, Renee and John. He is a member of the Kiowa tribe.

A former Native American Studies major, Jay Brooks is currently pursuing a BBA at the Cameron University Business School in Liberal Management. However, he wishes to finish his education at the University of Oklahoma in Public Health (MHA) Special honors and scholarships include Student Government+ Honor Roll at Cameron University 2017; Presidents Honor Roll at CNC 2016; Presidents Award for Academic Excellence at Southwestern Oklahoma State University with emphasis in Management 2016. Brooks is currently pursuing a BBA at the Cameron University Business School in Liberal Management. However, he wishes to finish his education at the University of Oklahoma in Public Health (MHA) Special honors and scholarships include Student Government+ Honor Roll at Cameron University 2017; Presidents Honor Roll at CNC 2016; Presidents Award for Academic Excellence at Southwestern Oklahoma State University with emphasis in Management 2016. 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However, he wishes to finish his education at the University of Oklahoma in Public Health (MHA) Special honors and scholarships include Student Government+ Honor Roll at Cameron University 2017; Presidents Honor Roll at CNC 2016; Presidents Award for Academic Excellence at Southwestern Oklahoma State University with emphasis in Management 2016. It's the end of the term. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. If you need any support or resources, please reach out to your Kiowa contact or the Kiowa Community Center.
The Story of Blood Clot Boy

There was a place way up there in the cold country where the Kiowa lived long ago. There was an old man and woman who had become so old that they were left behind by the main Kiowa camp. It had become a desperate situation for them as they all were facing starvation and so the old couple were left behind in the cold weather the entire camp pulled up stakes and moved away in search for big game. Nevertheless, the old couple were forced to find food for them for several days.

After they were left behind the old man would go out each day and hunt for big game that he could find. Finally, after many days their food supply had dwindled to a meager portion and they were very desperate. The old man had to travel further and further from the lodge in search for game. Before he would leave the lodge and to keep his wife’s spirit up he would tell her to keep the water boiling so that when he came back with a big game she would have something to eat. He knew his situation was grave. The old man and woman went for a month and after two days gave up and decided to return to the lodge. He thought to himself that he could only find a rabbit, a squirrel, or even that a feast that would be something. The Kiowa are a proud people and to stoop to eating small game was beneath them. For the old couple, the old woman got very happy and would cook enough for everyone to eat and become full. Being old, the old wife was happy too that the meat was always tender with fat and good.

One day, the old man and woman went hunting but they didn’t see anything. When they were back to the lodge the old wife was very happy and would cook enough for everyone to eat and become full. Being old, the old wife was happy too that the meat was always tender with fat and good. On that day, the young boy finally grew to become a young man. His skills at hunting and finding game when game was scarce became legendary. One day, the people, being in great need of food, came to the young man and asked him to find some game and fish. He was also held in high esteem for his generosity, his love, and this kindness in all that he did. Eventually, the Kiowa people asked him to be a young man with them. He taught them how to hunt and fish and put an end to their difficulties.

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Rhonda Ahhaitty, District 2 legislator, hosted a community meeting on November 29, 2017. The goal was to inform residents about available programs and to answer the concerns of the community. The agenda for the meeting included Robbie Abadljadaj and Peppe Pippa Jr., Kiowa Casino rebuild events, Nestell, Darko Housing, Kay Mopope, Social Services, Brett Tolles, Kiowa Youth Sports Program; and Charlotte Niyah-McCurtain, Comanche Nation Vocational Rehabilitation. Each speaker explained their programs and accomplishments they have made so far to as well as answer the questions posed by the audience who wanted more information.

The Kiowa Casino announced that there would be two grand openings next year 2018. The hotel will open in its doors with 43 rooms available in February, and the newly renovated casino in Carnegie will open their doors in January. Nestell from Darko Housing informed that since their operations of 2014, the program has provided homes to receive storm shelters. He also expressed how the program is able to assist the Kiowa Housing with some of the funding. The program is able to assist those who are interested in buying a home (trust/non trust), or if you already own a home, they can assist with renovations. The applications and limits can be found on the website at ktiowatribe.org.

Social Services have recently moved to Anadarko but are still available to those in the Carnegie and Holdet area. Kay Mopope explained the reason for the move was because of the large number of applicants from Anadarko, meeting the need to move where the services are most needed. Since the start of the program nearly 317 families have been helped with

Entertainment assistance: meanwhile, the Life Stage program has been able to help 20 families with assistance. Mopope also announced that the Crisis program will begin on December 1 and will be available throughout the year. For now the counties of Kiowa and Calhoun are the ones being serviced but there’s hope for the program to be able to reach further soon.

Overall, Ms. Ahhaitty had hoped that the meeting gave her district the information that they needed about the programs and status of the Kiowa Tribe. She hopes to schedule another meeting in the future and meet with the community about their concerns. Ahhaitty told everyone that she is available should any one have questions or something that they would like to discuss, her number is 580/654-6311. If for any reason you are unable to reach Ms Ahhaitty, you can leave a message with the legislature secretary, Tracy Harris at 580/654-6338.

Social Services Specialist, Kay Mopope talks about the services available to District 2 residents.

More Vacancies:

- Bus Driver/Custodian (Head Start)
- Higher Education Counselor
- Intake Clerk (Social Services)
- Teacher (Child Care)

Please visit the Kiowa Tribe website at: www.kiowatribe.org/job-vacancies.html to view or download job announcements, download fillable job application forms, and obtain information on how to apply or contact the Human Resources Department at (580) 654-6317 or 6335.

The Kiowa Tribe also accepts applications and maintains an applicant database for temporary hiring consideration open continuously for the following types of positions:

- Clerical positions
- Custodian
- Laborers
- Maintenance Worker
- School Bus Drivers
- Security Guard
- Transit Drivers
- Teachers
- Teacher Aides

By Request:

Happy 37th Wedding Anniversary to Phillip and Aleta Berry on December 7th from your sister Cindy and brother Bill.

Have a request?

Send it to news@kiowatribe.org or pr@kiowatribe.org.

It will be included in a request section of the Kiowa News.

PENDLETON BLANKET FOR CHRISTMAS??

The Kiowa Gift Shop has 50 Pendletons available now for 250 Dollars each
Kendall Allen Coker was born November 6, 1967 and passed from this life November 10, 2017. Kendall was born in Lawton, Oklahoma to Brenda (Haury) Tatum and Bruce Tongkeamah. He was raised in Carig- mee his first three years then moved to Tula with his mother. He and his mother moved to Phoenix, Arizona. He then attended Haskell Indians Nations University. Kendall returned to Phoe- nix and worked there for a few years before moving back to Carigeme. Ken- dall was an avid OU Sooner and Pitts- burgh Steelers Fan.

His cousins, who he thought of and loved dearly, wereARA Ikwe of Broken Bow, OK and three grandchildren.

Marsha Jean Smith was born December 3, 2017 at her home. Marsha was preceded in death by her grandparents, Etheline Tsalote and John Haury Sr., her aunts: Carol Stockholm, Tillie and Robert Chaino Ahkeahbo. Six sisters: Frank, John Jr., Neal and Secondine.

Marsha was a pillar of the recovery community in the region. with over 26 years of sobriety, she showed oth- ers that long term recovery was possi- ble. She used her education in sociol- ogy and psychology to help countless others in their journey to overcome alcoholism and addiction. The posi- tive influence of Marsha’s life will continue to have an impact in this area for years to come.

Marsha was survived by her father, Human Maurice White; husband, Rn Smith of Idaho; two sons, Will- iam Johnson III of Broken Bow, OK and Dustin W. White of Idaho; one brother, Keith White of Broken Bow, OK and three grandchildren.

Donald (Ducks) Chains-Akeahbo (88) of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma passed away October 20, 2017. Donald was the loving father, husband, grandfather, great grandfather and companion of Summer Rayne Martinez.

He was preceded in death by his parents, the late Robert Doyeto and his mother, the late Glenda Doyeto.

DONALD was born May 14, 1929 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and was a former Riverside Indian School student where she made many friends. She was a very thoughtful, loving person and tried to make her friends and children special birthday cakes. She was also a Thunder fan. She was a very loving mother and was active in her children’s interests until her health started failing.

Kendra was behind her 3 children; Mar- garita, Summer Rayne Martinez, and Rhiyanne Ivy Grace Gragg.

She was a very loving mother and was active in her children’s interests until her health started failing.

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More Elder Payment Memories

Greeting the guests at Remington Park in OKC were Legislator Dave Geimausaddle, Vice-Chair Charles Eisenberger, District 7 Legislator Modina Waters, and Chairman Matt Komalty.

Tulsa Elders waiting to be served a barbeque meal.

Chairman Komalty greeting the OKC Elders with information and holiday wishes.
Bison Stew
4 servings

This stew combines ground bison with vegetables in a tomato soup-based sauce to make a hearty main dish.

Ingredients
1 pound ground bison
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 can condensed tomato soup (about 10 ounces)
1 1/4 cups water
6 slices carrots (medium, sliced, or 2 cups canned drained)
2 cups potatoes (medium, diced, or 2 cups canned drained)
1 cup onion (diced)

Directions
2. Add soup and water to skillet. Add carrots, potatoes, and onions.
3. Bring to a boil, then simmer, covered, about 25 minutes or until soft.
4. Remove from heat; cover for 10 minutes to thicken.

Recipes provided monthly by the Kiowa Food Distribution Program Director, Will Brown.

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Evan Burchfield is going to march in the Rose Bowl Parade with The Pride Of Oklahoma Band. She’s a proud member of the Kiowa Tribe. Her parents are Tom & Robin Burchfield & the granddaughter of Beverly & the late Ben Hatfield, the great granddaughter of Thelma J. Kaulaity Bowman and Helen Poolaw. Evan is a music major at OU in her sophomore year. It’s her second year in the Pride.

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Did You Know

Did you know that back in the early days before there were reservations, Kiowas didn’t celebrate the New Year until later on during the spring/summer? According to research, the entire tribe would gather together for what is known as the Sun Dance. This ceremonial required a lot of special preparation, males and females of all ages had some part during this special time. The young men who participated in the Sun Dance where sort of sponsored by an elder or family; the elder would give them advice based on their own experience as well as support and encouragement.

The women were in charge of the food preparation as well as the camp. Some of them had a “give away” to honor their loved ones for their endurance and pride for being a part of the ceremony. They also made their loved one new regalia to be worn at social dancing that took place after the ceremony was over.

The social dancing was almost everyone’s favorite part of the ceremonial. The people would be seen in their best regalia as this was a special time for the entire tribe to be together.

The Kiowa Tribe had been banned from doing religious practices which also included the Sun Dance in 1883 by the United States government. It was around 1890 that the tribe held its last Sun Dance ceremonial at the ‘bend in the Washita’ (James Mooney 1989:359). No one speaks about that time or the ceremony anymore but a few of dances had been carried on through the generations. And to this day, the Kiowa Tribe still comes together during the summer to dance and fellowship with one another (gourd dance celebrations). Nearly every family within the tribe is represented and each is well dressed in their best regalia.

By Staff Writer Dianna Hadley