By Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter

As the sun shone bright on a gallant statue of an Indian warrior at the very top of the Oklahoma State Capitol on a warm Saturday afternoon, many tribal citizens gathered outside of the front capitol steps.

On May 6 Matriarch and American Indian Movement (AIM) organized a rally for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) in Oklahoma City. Many speakers came forward to share their personal experience on this sensitive topic. Speaking of missing and murdered Native women is an uneasy truth to talk about within Native communities; but many agree that education and awareness are topics worth discussing.

According to statistics, homicide has become the leading cause of death among Native American women. Partner-family members or close acquaintances are responsible for three in four fatal homicides involving women. As cases related to MMIW occur far and wide, MMIW’s Oklahoma City rally included local speakers. Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizen Larami Morgan, spoke openly from past experiences of local tragedies within Oklahoma.

“I am here today to bring awareness to the missing and murdered indigenous women but also bring awareness to some of the local events that have happened,” Morgan said.

She said her cousin Ida Beard, a Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizen, had been missing since June 2015.

“She went missing and I just wanted to talk a little bit about her life because as a Cheyenne and Arapaho family, we haven’t really talked about it because we’ve been waiting for her to be found or to show back up so it’s been a really sensitive topic in our family that we haven’t shared. I feel it’s important that her story be shared,” Morgan said.

Since Beard’s disappearance, a missing persons report has been filed but has not received much attention from the police department or the media.

Morgan said that Beard’s story has not been publicized since her disappearance and hopes by sharing her story that community acknowledgment will be brought to light.

“I was just here today to kind of bring a little bit of attention to her case but also to talk about the importance of acknowledging our local community, the things that happen in Oklahoma, in our tribes. I know her case is not the only one in Oklahoma where Native women have gone missing or murdered,” Morgan said.

Another story shared by Morgan was once known as the most notorious crimes in Oklahoma called the 1987 State Fair Murders.

On May 4 the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes Higher Education department held their annual graduation banquet celebrating high school and college graduates. Families and friends, along with honorary recipients, joined together to congratulate those who will be receiving line.

With confetti, sweets and treats, many of you will go to college, Dunbar encouraged. To every one of you, Dunbar said in his 16th year of employment with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes current serves as the director for Community Development. Dunbar also serves as EPA Community Coordinator. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with education being a prime factor in Dunbar’s background, the challenges his goals were not always easy in his situation, as he struggled to overcome addiction.

“My education accomplishments have been a long road in my life, I began right out of high school and went straight to college at Cameron University. I lasted three semesters of hanging out with my friends, going to bars and thought I was having a good time. The classes were not that hard, but saying no to my friends was,” Dunbar said.

With the start of a new academic year ahead of the soon-to-be graduates, Dunbar encouraged all students to not give into the peer pressure that they once had to overcome but to also never stop making and achieving goals.

“There’s nothing wrong with being sober and sobriety can be very cool. I graduated with my bachelor’s degree when I was 41 and my master’s degree at 58. It’s never too late to keep reaching for something that means so much to you.”

With his educational experience, Dunbar soon chose to begin his career working for the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes right out of college. Of the many positions Dunbar has held, working for EPA was the most notable.

“I used my technical training from Southwestern in my everyday activities that I did for the EPA,” Dunbar said. “Working to protect and preserve mother earth’s natural resources has opened my eyes to how fragile she is. I’m very concerned about our water and especially our water resources we have in the Cheyenne and Arapaho service area. Water is sacred to the Cheyenne and Arapaho people; we use it in all of our ceremonial structures.”

Dunbar also did a presentation entitled “Protecting Mother Earth,” to showcase daily and weekly issues the EPA addresses. Through education, especially working with the tribes, Dunbar’s sincerity lies within helping his tribal community and hopes to see tribal members seek their education.

“As this year’s graduating class many of you will go to college, some of you may decide to attend vocational school to learn your trade, some of you may seek employment somewhere to earn a living and some or may decide to go into the military branches, whatever you decide to do, I wish you well and offer all my prayers for your one and very successful,” Dunbar said in his closing remarks.

Honored educators for the banquet were Dara Franklin and Joyce Twins. Special recognitions were bestowed on Autumn Asher, Kyle Haverstrom, Carmen Cieland and Natalie Youngbull for their educational accomplishments.
Native students inducted into Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society

By Latoya Lonelodge

OISHS is a part of the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education and Culture which is the basis of OCE's guiding principles. For more information about OCE visit www.oklaho-mma.org.

As an elementary student at Darlington School, Native American student Rose Youngbull could never imagine the educational journey she has traveled. Rose graduated in 1997 from the University of Arizona, to a Doctor-ing Student Honor Society.
Chickasaw begins 322-mile Washita River adventure

By Gene Lehman, Chickasaw Nation

(Cheney, OK) Chickasaw master craftsman and artist Richard Thomas plans to kayak more than 320 miles down the Washita River, the historic river of the Washita Battle in October 1868. Thomas, a Tsistsistas & Hinonoei Cheyenne & Arapaho tribal member, was born near Land Run Creek, just east of today's Oklahoma City. He believes spring rains will have swelled the Washita River, making it a hazardous journey. "I am pretty sure I’ll be tired, bug-bitten and beat up when I get to Oklahoma City," he said.

Timing is key for Thomas. He wishes to experience the adventure “deliberately.”

"I am physically able to do this now. I’m not sure that I will be able to do this from now or two years from now," he added, as if musing aloud on the adventure “deliberately.”

Thomas will assess the “health” of the Washita River throughout his journey. He intends to document sightings of wildlife, observe thriving and distressed species of trees and plants. He will take account of all living creatures he sees. He will also be responsible for taking care of his craft, a 17-foot kayak he made himself.

"I am not a scientist, but I can observe and take samples," he said.

"I will be using that time to study the plants and animals I come across," he said.

Thomas also is an artist who specializes in traditional and decorative weapons, such as bows, arrows, squirrel and rabbit sticks, tomahawks and other items. He will show his talent to regular customers who bring him antique treasures for appraisal through western, central and southern Oklahoma.

"I am physically able to do this now. I’m not sure that I will be able to do this from now or two years from now," he added, as if musing aloud on the adventure “deliberately.”

Thomas admits age is a concern. "I am physically able to do this now. I’m not sure that I will be able to do this from now or two years from now," he added, as if musing aloud on the adventure “deliberately.”

In the article, Thomas expressed his desire to experience the adventure “deliberately.” He also noted that age is a concern, but he is physically able to do so at the moment. He plans to use the time to study the plants and animals he encounters, and he will show his talent by creating traditional and decorative weapons.

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Rumors spread like wildfires

C-A Governor addresses rumors surrounding recent casino audit in Letter to Tribal Citizens

(Concho-OK) As some may be aware, we recently were advised that we would be audited by the NIGC in the 2016 audit of the Tribes’ gaming operations. Unfortunately, in the past, we have suffered with early access to the casino audits that have greatly added to our challenges in maintaining an internationally recognized self-governing tribe.

Let me be clear. Nothing relating to the casino audits are any threat to the self-governing principles of the Chickasaw Nation. Regular customers bring him antique treasures for appraisal. He also is an artist who specializes in traditional and decorative weapons, such as bows, arrows, squirrel and rabbit sticks, tomahawks and other items. He will show his talent to regular customers who bring him antique treasures for appraisal through western, central and southern Oklahoma.

Thomas said the trip is also intended to pay tribute to all tribes whose ancestors lived in and fought for the territories the Washita River drains through western, central and southern Oklahoma.

He plans to slips his personally-outfitted kayak into the water at Black Kettle, north of Clinton, and travel downstream. He will cover 322 miles to Oklahoma City.

First, I have directed that the casino management for the purchase of supervisory and other operational resources. I have also directed the NIGC to evaluate the accounting functions to ensure the casinos' internal controls are in place. The NIGC has been, and continues to be, supportive of our work and encouraged it.

Additionally, we terminated or renegotiated other costly and some potentially thankful contracts to save the Tribe’s money and prevent regulatory problems. We also cooperated and continue to cooperate, with the NIGC to protect the Tribe’s best interests. The Battle of the Washita RiverFriday, May 5 at the Black Kettle National Grasslands through western, central and southern Oklahoma. The master craftsman is tackling a 322-mile journey down the Washita River Friday, May 5, before taking part in the upcoming assessments, to address the problems created by prior management and leadership, and this effort is ongoing. This process is not pretty, nor it is easy. The battle caused by years of shady dealings and neglect of our internal controls and accounting systems cannot be undone overnight. The desire for quick fixes is what led to some of our past problems. Patience — and committed management — will allow us to right the ship.

We are on the right path. For quite possibly the first time in the history of our gaming operations, both our gaming management and our Gaming Commission are committed to exposing our unfortunate past. Protecting future generations from repeating our unfortunate past.

Eddie Hamilton, Governor
for Several factors beyond your being a stroke. Every year about including children, can have damage or death. creases the risk of permanent ble. A delay in treatment in- treatment as soon as possi- of the brain is cut off. When ter-of-fact. Merely a part of me. It's my mer, I realize it is more than for the trip is to show I am reservation to visit www. For any information

The American Indian

Tribal Elections

342-7199.
Congratulations to your graduation we love you! Mom, Toya and Jackie.

Hunter Cheyenne Love Mackey, is graduating El Reno High School Academy, Hunter plans on attending the Art Institute of Seattle in the fall.

We are so proud!
The Mackey family

Laci Nieder was chosen as an EHS employee of the month for the month of March. Laci has worked at the Clinton Center for 3 years and has continuously improved her job performance and is always willing to help out wherever she is needed. Laci is a great asset to our program and we are so happy to have her!

Lori Morton, HLG Happy Shorten, Special Guest Tammy Seerg Riss and AD Seth Litteken.

Graduation Dance for Janaria Alisia Lewis
May 27, 2017 at the Concho Community Center in Concho, Okla. Dance and special at 6, supper at 6, Grand Entry at 7 p.m. Enjoy w/ dance to follow.

MC TBA, HS Deon Wetheridge, HTG Harriett Woods, Head Judge Juaquin Hamilton, HGD Hyde Toppah, Guest Judges Jelly Bean, Misty Blue, Moon Shadow, Cherokee Indian Heritage, TBA.

Mary Sleeper

Happy Mother’s Day to all the moms and Nan’s: Dannah, Tongue, Marcy Swain, Harmonia, Rose Gaines, Priscilla Ann, Jhosh Bubac, Bear, Skidder, Spic, Con, Sneed, Rocky, Jamie Aq, Jolly, Kelly Run, Jamie Aq, Bear Wep, Great Grand, Rose, Billie Sue, Donna, Mindi, Hotley, Nan, Nancy Nells, Star, Amanda, Jana, Kc, 80, Trout, Otsitow, Rocky Eden, Baby C, Tom, Rylia, Ski, Ball, Shugh, Marr, Carel, Kin, Amber, Miss, Francis, Michelle, Suzanne, Juan, Millie, Barbara, Kathy, Doris, Gay, Tara and my indian mom peaches, Ty, Jay Men

The 26th annual Austin Powwow Sponsors the Steve family and Glaston Uraga.


Happy 75th Birthday to Ula Whiteshirt on May 18, our good grand, great grandma, and we all held you close to our hearts and hope your day was special May God bless you with many more birthdays to come! Love always, your family.

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Happy 75th Birthday to Ula Whiteshirt on May 18, our good grand, great grandma, and we all held you close to our hearts and hope your day was special May God bless you with many more birthdays to come! Love always, your family.

Happy Birthday to baby Jr. Donado,M, Francis, J, and daddy Jerry Provens, 60.

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David Hunter Williams
Dec. 26, 1961
April 24, 2017

Wake services for David Hunter Williams were held May 1 at the McBee & Sons Funeral Home in Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Patrick Emhoolum
Nov. 15, 1977

Wake services for Patrick Emhoolum were held April 27 at the Comanche Nation Chapel in Lawton, Okla.

Betty Jean Whiteman
March 16, 1957
May 2, 2017

Wake services for Betty Jean Whiteman were held April 27 at the Wacconia Chapel in Amarillo, Okla., followed by an interment at the Wacconia Cemetery.

Josephine White Skunk
May 5, 2017

Wake services for Josephine White Skunk were held May 5 at the Clinton Community Center in Hommand, Okla.

Michael Neil Schilt
May 4, 2017, in Taos, NM, at the age of 44 years.

Betty Jean Whiteman was born July 24, 1972 in Los Angeles, Calif. Michael was an attorney and a member of the Native American Church.

Michael is survived by his mother Linda Peterson of Taos, N.M., and Kodi Bear Schildt and Kaisoma Schildt both of Los Lunas, N.M., and two brothers, Joe Gomez and Curtis Schildt both of Albuquerque.

As an elder Cheyenne warrior, as my southern Cheyenne people look toward electing tribal leaders who have placed their names on various positions in our tribal leadership, I implore each one of you to remember your families and our responsibilities to our sacred ceremonies. Our elected tribal members must be individuals who comprehend the true meaning of sovereignty. The Trump administration is quickly moving toward privatizing tribal lands and subsequent termination of our treaties. This is the reality we are facing, and we must look toward leaders who will use full reputation to fight against the colonial forces now threatening our lands and sacred ceremonies.
Golf prodigy Vincent Aispuro was presented with a plaque by Tracey Smalley, President of the Watonga Golf Association in May in Watonga, OK. The plaque was given for a 160 yard hole in one Vinci shot on Aug. 29, 2016 at the Watonga Golf Course.

Vince has been playing golf since he could walk and can usually be found with his golfing partner, his grandfather Charles Howlingwater on any given day playing golf.

Vince’s parents are Alicia and Alfonso Aispuro, Grandparents are Charles and Dolores Howlingwater and he has one sister, Avery.

(Photos courtesy of Watonga Republican)
What is Tribal HUD-VASH?
This is a program that was developed in partnership with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. “VASH” stands for “VA Supported Housing.” It was designed to assist homeless Veteran families. We provide case management and community support services to keep Veterans in permanent quality housing in the community.

Veterans and their families who take part in this program will receive case management services through the VA and Housing assistance through the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes which will support their long-term housing needs.

The Mission of the HUD-VASH program on Tribal Lands is to provide full-range case management services that: Improve the health status and social integration of Veterans; Reduce substance abuse and psychiatric relapse; Help Veterans gain access to community resources so they can stay in permanent community-based housing; Build new skills and form enjoyable relationships to help Veterans live well.

Who is eligible?
If you are homeless, are a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, and are a VA health care eligible Veteran who needs management services, you may be eligible for the program. You must commit to live in Custer, Canadian, or Blaine County.

If you are interested in the program, contact us by calling the numbers listed on the bottom or by email.

How does HUD-VASH work?
Your application will be reviewed by a HUD-VASH Case Manager. If accepted into the program, the Case Manager will contact you to schedule a time to meet and start the housing process.

Your case manager will assist you and your family to get the information needed for referral to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Housing Office for your voucher. You will also need to meet with the case manager to do an assessment of your strengths and needs.

A treatment plan is developed to meet your specific situation and needs.

What role do I play?
Your participation in the treatment plan is key. This program helps you stay in housing by making positive life changes in your recovery from homelessness. Some treatment plan items could include: Medical appointments; Going to mental health appointments; Taking medications as prescribed; Attending substance abuse recovery and support meetings.

Your Housing Office and case manager will assist you with finding affordable housing and meeting with potential landlords.

After you have moved into your new place, your case manager will continue to help you achieve your goals. They will assist you with your recovery plan, including money management and connecting with your community. Following your recovery plan is important so that you are able to stay housed.

Do I need HUD-VASH? Are you a homeless Veteran and Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal member? Do you have a history of not being able to keep housing? Do you feel like no matter what you do, you just can’t seem to get ahead? Do you want to see positive changes in your life? If you answered YES to these questions, then HUD-VASH may be for you.

How to contact us:
Tribal HUD-VASH
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Tribal HUD/VASH
921 NE 13th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

A Veterans guide to the HUD-VASH Tribal Program