Two justices sworn to serve for Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Supreme Court

Latoya Lonelodge and Matthew Hurst

On Monday, Dec. 17 the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes swore in two Supreme Court Justices, Emil K. Boles and John J. Kocher at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Justice Center in Concho, Okla.

Attendees gathered, greeted and welcomed one another in the courtroom to witness the moment that many had anticipated.

“We’re here today to do the swearing in for two more Supreme Court Justices. Ms. Emil Boles and Mr. John Kocher. About two months ago we swore in the three current justices, Dennis Ammon, Lindsay Robertson and Ryland Rivers Sr. for those of you who are familiar with our tribe, tribal politics actually took a back seat last 12 years, bringing the three justices back was a historic moment for our tribe because we were in a period of time where we had a Supreme Court but we were never really sure whether or not they were valid... by bringing these guys back with the nomination from Gov. Wassana, the confirmation by the Legislature and the approval by the Tribal Council, it brought back something to our tribe that lets us know when we get rulings from our Supreme Court we know that it’s coming from solid authority and professors,” Herold Graham, executive attorney said in the opening ceremony.

With the introduction of a now fully confirmed and approved seated Supreme Court bench, Graham acknowledged and thanked guests for their attendance.

“Acting Chief Justice Lindsay Robertson conducted the swearing in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Council removes coordinator at special meeting

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Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune

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You must change the actions of the past.

GO Confidently in the DIRECTION OF YOUR DREAMS.

TO MOVE FORWARD TO THE FUTURE.

Looking Back

Year of Photos

2018

To the future you must change the actions of the past.

Confidently go in the direction of your dreams.
Bill to help solve crimes against Native Americans

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — A bill meant to help authorities solve cases in which Native American women and girls are killed or go missing on tribal land appears to be on track after a vote in the U.S. Senate.

The Senate passed the initiative sponsored by North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, but Heitkamp said that if authorities had more accurate statistics they might be able to detect patterns to help solve more cases, although likely it would not have prevented Greywind's death because it was not a federal case.

Native American activists have asked Pepper Crimi — who will take over Heitkamp's Senate seat next month — to help advance the bill before the end of this current session. It will expire if a handful of demonstrators gathered outside Cramer's Fargo office on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. Native Americans, if he can stand behind human- ity, then we can move forward,” protested a female demonstrator. “Native women must not be left to the clock run out on Savan- na’s Act.”

Crimi did not release messages left by KFGO.

mitted.
we are honored to have her back as well,” Gorham said.

She's familiar with tribal law, she's a tribal member, she's very well schooled in our tribal law and

sitting Supreme Court Justices for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Their right hands raised, the ceremony soon became a celebration as many applauded the new

ceremony and called for Boles and Kocher one after the other. In taking the oath of office and

the whole election again,” Gorham said.

Bringing back Boles, she was nominated by Gov. Wassana, she was confirmed by the Leg

Boles, a Cheyenne and Arapaho citizen, served previously on the Supreme Court, along

Current sitting Supreme Court Justices also made remarks and comments of the newly

Gorham acknowledged that the now seated Supreme Court bench was the first he's seen in

Ken, the last time, I have

five lawfully confirmed and

himself. The ceremony also

This is certainly the greatest honor and privilege in my legal career,” Kocher said.


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attended the ceremony, and called for Boles and Kocher one after the other.

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First Nation Health made a donation in the amount of $10,000 to the first Annual Elder’s Powwow that will be held Jan. 5, 2019 in Weatherford, Okla. On Dec. 13, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Reggie Wassana and Lt. Gov. Gib Miles accepted the donation.

New Farm Bill to overhaul hemp industry

The 2018 Farm Bill legalized hemp and explicitly honored tribes’ authority to implement programs that allow the cultivation of industrial hemp—regardless of state law. That’s a critical change. For instance, in October 2015, Drug Enforcement Agency agents destroyed the Menominee Indian Tribe’s hemp crops in Wisconsin. That year, a federal court determined the 2014 Farm Bill required the hemp be cultivated in compliance with state law. Although the tribe had legalized the growing and cultivation of industrial hemp on its land, Wisconsin had not implemented an agricultural pilot program with the federal government. Thus, the Menominee tribe could not legally cultivate hemp, under the terms of the 2014 Farm Bill, the federal court determined. The 2018 bill would change that. Wisconsin later shifted its stance. In late 2017, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker reached an agreement with the St. Croix Chippewa Tribe on the full implementation of the Tribe’s hemp and cannabidiol (“CBD”) control program. The agreement established the first tribe-owned and operated hemp business in Wisconsin, home to 11 federally recognized tribes.

Under the 2018 Farm Bill, states that don’t adopt an industrial hemp program cannot interfere with the transportation or shipment of industrial hemp. While the bill does not require individual states to permit the sale of industrial hemp or hemp products, it does bar states from interfering with intervention or distribution. The new provisions are also significant as the 2014 Farm Bill did not require states to distinguish between hemp and marijuana. The 2018 Farm Bill removes hemp, a member of the cannabis family, from classification with marijuana as a Schedule I controlled narcotic, federally prohibited under the Controlled Substance Act (CSA). Hemp does not contain THC, the chemical component that causes a person to become “high.” Hemp lends itself to a variety of products, including paper, clothing, rope, food, medicine, fuel such as ethanol, and CBD-derived products. Cannabidiol, commonly called CBD, is a hemp extract widely recognized for its use in treating a variety of medical ailments and treatment of childhood epilepsy.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the farm bill on December 12. It now requires President Donald Trump’s signature.

The U.S. hemp industry anticipates hemp business and investment radically expand. If Trump authorizes the 2018 Farm Bill, it will open doors for easier access to capital, crop insurance and federal grants for hemp farming. “This is a monumental step for hemp farming,” said Lauren Stansbury of the U.S. Hemp Industries Association.

Alex White Plume, Oglala Lakota, who fought a nearly two-decade battle to grow hemp on tribal lands in South Dakota, considers the 2018 Farm Bill, expected to be signed by Trump, a forthcoming victory. An estimated 32 DEA agents raided his property in 2000, chopping down his acres of hemp crops. “I live in the poorest community and the poorest county in America today. I was desperate to bring some type of economic development in, where we could use the land without destroying the land,” White Plume previously told Native Business Magazine.

This year, the White Plume family inked a partner- nership with the Boulder, Colorado-based Evo Hemp to produce full spectrum CBD extracts. Evo Hemp is known for its line of Hemp Bars sold in more than 3,000 retailers, including Whole Foods Markets and Kroger. Today, anyone can purchase organic HempX Extract and HempX Capsules, made from White Plume’s organic, cannabinoid-rich hemp flower, thanks to his partnership with Evo Hemp.
In 1834, the 23rd United States Congress passed “an Act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers.” In section 21 of this law, Congress mandated that “if any person whatever shall, within the limits of the Indian country, set up or continue any distillery for manufacturing ardent spirits, he shall forfeit and pay a penalty of one thousand dollars; and it shall be the duty [...] to destroy and break up the same; and it shall be the duty to employ the military force of the United States in executing that duty.”

That law, enacted on June 30, 1834, is now codified as U.S.C. § 251 ("Section 251"). The intent was to treat American Indians as wards of the state, the thinking went, incapable of enlightened self-governance. Indians, the thinking went, were uncivilized, incapable of owning or managing self-rule, and bound to be fleeced by white settlers.

In 1953, Congress amended the law to allow alcohol to be sold on reservations, but the ban on production remained. In 2016, a bill (H.R. 5317) introduced in March by Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler, a Republican who represents the district encompassing the Chehalis, aims to change that and end the distilling ban once and for all by deleting the Section 251 provision and replacing it with a new law allowing small craft distilleries. For Tribes, the ability to set up breweries and distilleries could be a boon to Tribal economy and Tribal job creation. According to the Penobscot Indian Nation in Maine, for one, is similarly considering opening economic development opportunities on tribal land. The Chehalis-owned operation would be on-reservation and 100 percent owned and operated by the Tribe, “a distillery on-reservation in Washington State. Both will be 100 percent owned and operated by the tribe.”

Chairman Pickernell’s testimony outlined the need for the legislation and the impact it would have on the Tribal economy and Tribal job creation.

“Southeast Washington has long been an economically depressed area lacking in businesses and jobs for Tribal members and non-Indians alike,” he said. “The Tribe operates a casino but is always looking for a way to diversify its economic base to continue to support its education, health, housing, safety, and future programs for its members. Approximately 40 percent of Tribal members are under the age of 21 and will need jobs in the future.”

“Currently the Tribe is planning to develop a stand-alone brewery and a stand-alone distillery, both of which will be on-reservation and 100 percent owned and operated by the Tribe.”

Pickernell continued that “by allowing the Tribe’s project to move forward, repealing Section 251 will create jobs both for Tribal members and for the surrounding communities and provide an economic return to the Tribe for use to support its tribal programs. These will include building the distillery, the distilling trade production facility, and addressing the marketing and distribution of the Tribe’s products.”

The Tribe has already obtained building permits for the project, it has completed the full design, and purchased some of the needed equipment. In addition to putting the project on hold out of fear that it will fail under Section 251, BIA, the Tribe also stands to create about 100 construction jobs, and 30 to 40 full-time positions once open. Chehalis Tribal Chairman Harry Pickernell, Sr., sees the new law preventing them from opening a distillery.

“This is a good day for tribal members and all others across the country as we celebrate the repeal of a law that strives to be more inclusive and sovereign to Tribes around the country will now have the ability to move forward with minor craft distilleries on their own lands.” Chairman Pickernell said in a statement. "This is a great victory for the Chehalis Tribe and tribes nationwide that seek to expand economic development opportunities on their own land."

This week, President Donald Trump signed a bipartisan bill into law, overthrowing a prohibition of distilleries on tribal land. H.R. 5317 repeals a section of the Trade and Intercourse Act of 1834. The 200-year-old ban barred the manufacturer of certain liquor on tribal lands. For nearly 200 years this archaic law has been a barrier for tribal nations pursuing economic freedom,” said Senator Patty Murray (D-Washington).

Enactment of the bill paves way for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation to develop its planned stand-alone brewery and separate distillery on-reservation in Washington State. Both will be 100 percent owned and operated by the tribe.

Tribes around the country will now have the ability to move forward with minor craft distilleries on their own lands.” Chairman Pickernell said in a statement. "This is a great victory for the Chehalis Tribe and tribes nationwide that seek to expand economic development opportunities on their own land."
Oklahoma nearly tops nation in holding back early-grade students

By Jennifer Palmer, Oklahoma Watch

As a first grader, Tricia Willyard’s son struggled to read. The educators at his school recommended he repeat first grade, something Willyard, herself an educator in a nearby district, at first opposed.

She knew what the research said about retention, that there can be long-term detrimental effects, and she felt like her son hadn’t yet done enough to help him.

But she eventually went along with it, and the news shocked her son.

“Psychologically, it’s devastating,” said Willyard, of Okmulgee. “We had to re-play what he was going to say to people why he wasn’t going on to the next grade.”

Her son, whom she described as a bright and respectful kid, was 6 years old.

As is the norm in elementary schools across the state, school leaders were concerned about the third-grade reading test. Willyard says the principal told her they were afraid her son wouldn’t pass the test, which at that point was still two years away.

Despite a laser focus on third grade in public schools across Oklahoma, it’s the only year educators are required by law to retain students who aren’t reading-proficient, it’s not the most common year for students to be retained. A review of federal data from 2011-12 to 2015-16, the latest available, found that repeating a grade is actually more common in kindergarten and first grade.

The high-stakes third-grade test appears to drive many of the early retentions. These early-grade retentions are happening more regularly in Oklahoma than in almost any other state. According to the data, released by the U.S. Department of Education, nearly 10,000 students in kindergarten through second grade were retained in the 2015-16 school year, compared to just over 2,500 in the District of Columbia, according to an Oklahoma Watch analysis. Only Mississippi retained a higher proportion of students in those early grades.

In some cases, retaining a student is warranted and even beneficial, especially if their struggles are related to age or maturity, educators say. But Oklahoma’s extraordinarily high rate suggests something is out of whack.

Retention is also costly. Assuming all 9,865 kindergarten through second grade students retained in 2015-16 complete high school, one extra year of schooling at Oklahoma’s average of $8,091 per student costs the state $80 million. Advocates say that money would be better spent on extra support for the student within their normal grade progression.

Repeating a grade has human costs, too. A researcher at Texas A&M University followed nearly 800 children for 14 years and found those who were held back during elementary school were about three times more likely to drop out of high school than their peers. In that study, the most common year repeated was first grade.

Not graduating has lifelong ramifications: High school dropouts earn less than those with a diploma, are more likely to be unemployed, are generally less healthy and more likely to end up in prison. Oklahoma’s current graduation rate is 83 percent and one of Oklahoma’s goals under its Every Student Succeeds Act plan is to improve the rate to at least 90 percent.

The Problem With Retention

The Texas A&M study compared retained students with promoted students and found the biggest difference came during the transition to high school in ninth grade.

That year, the previously retained students typically entered 16, an age that opened up opportunities to work full-time or enroll in a GED program. And those students were further from obtaining a high school diploma than their classmates. It increased the odds the students would drop out by 2.67 times. Jan Hughs, the researcher who led the study, says the results suggest there is a window of opportunity to consider alternatives to retention in the early grades.

“I don’t think it’s harmful for every child, but more research needs to be conducted on when it’s an appropriate intervention,” she said.

Another study found that reading and math achievement improved for Florida students who were retained in third grade, and that being old for their grade didn’t reduce the likelihood the student would receive a diploma. But critics note the researcher in that study and others on retention works for a Harvard research center chaired by third-grade-Turnaround Education.

EDUCATION (pg. 3)

Gaming on the Rez

Jan. 5, 2019 at the Concho Community Center in Concho, Okla. Registration opens at 9 a.m. with a $20 entry fee. For more information call 405-658-4361.

First Elder’s Powwow 2019

Jan. 5, 2019 at the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Wellness Center, 1101 N. Broadway in Weatherford, Okla. Registration opens at 9 a.m., closes at 12:39 p.m. Grand Entry will be held at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

MC Ruben Littlehead, Lawrence, Kansas and Jay Mule, Norman, Okla., Alfs Heroit Gohram, Oklahoma City and Ruben Watun, Weatherford, Okla., Color Guard Buddy Bond Chapter, Weatherford, Okla., Host Northern Drum, Northern Cart, Muskawks, Alberta and Host Southern Drum, Yellowhammer, Ponca Okla.

Limited vendors. For more information call 405-249-7054, 405-249-2267 and 405-416-0726.

Memorial Dance for Emmett RedBird Sr.

Jan. 12, 2019 at the Concho Community Center in Concho, Okla. Ceremonial Paint at 1:30 p.m., grand dance 2 p.m. and suppers at 5 p.m.


For more information contact Vivian Red Bird-Clark at 405-882-7068 or Stella Red Bird at 405-924-0359.
Hetótae aéname Nahtona! For 7 years, I have watched you grow, change, and mature. I have lived in awe of your ever-burning spirit and your unbridled passion for every second of those years. May your birthday shine as bright as you! Né-méhótâtse! Happy 7th Birthday, my daughter! (Jan 12th).

Love, mom and all your family!

Happy 6th Birthday Haven Alyzabeth

Two Babies

Love you,

Big sister Alyssa big brother Novi and grama Quoint

Happy New Year’s Birthday Janis Spottedcorn, we love you!

Hannah and girls, Cato, Rayenlyn and family, Wilkins and family and grama Quoint

Happy 4th Birthday Punkin Blackowl

To the Employees and Co-workers of Luckystar Casino: This is to all the Employees and co-workers here at Luckystar Casino; I just wanted to take this time to let you know how much I really appreciate your generosity over these last two months. Things have been overwhelming and quite crazy; I couldn’t have come through this time without you. “Thank you” for letting me believe there are “ANGELS” here at Luckystar Casino.

My name is Ethel Blindwoman and I work here at Luckystar Casino/Human Resources Dept.

 happy new years birthday melin two babies

we are so proud of you and love you so much, auntie Quoint, auntie Rachel and family

Darlington School’s Students of the Month – November Theme “Determined” – Pictured bottom row l-r: Aiyana Dugger (2nd Grade), Felipe Arevalo (Pre-K), Kayden Dugger (1st Grade), Jacey Rittenhouse (Kindergarten), and Matthew Smith (3rd Grade). Top row l-r: Nevada Sage (7th Grade), Khadija Ba (6th Grade), Deylyn Mann (5th Grade) and Julius Woolworth (6th Grade). Not Pictured: Alex Elizondo (6th Grade).

Stella Bessie Blackbear

Aug. 4, 1926

Dec. 19, 2018

A public viewing was held on Dec. 23, followed by a wake service at the Winnebago Community Center in Watonga, Okla. Funeral service was private.

Hi-Sei Betet Birdshead

Nov. 30, 1988

Dec. 10, 2018

Wake services were held Dec. 12 at theKiowa Lou Funeral Chapel in Clinton, Okla. A private viewing was held Dec. 13 at the Mound Valley Cemetery.

Willie Perry Grizzly

Jan. 16, 1955

Dec. 22, 2018

Wake services were held Dec. 27 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral service was held Dec. 28 at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Colony Indian Cemetery.

Jacqueline Poonie Hamilton

Nov. 5, 1950

Dec. 6, 2018

Funeral service was held Dec. 15 at the St. James Baptist Church in Spencer, Okla., followed by an interment at the Hillcrest Cemetery.

Freda Hatch

Sept. 21, 1950

Dec. 7, 2018

An all night wake service was held Dec. 11 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. An all night wake service was held Dec. 17 at the Hammon Community Center in Hammon, Okla. The following day was held Dec. 18 at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Hammon Indian Menno-nite Cemetery.

Anosta Sue Horn

Oct. 2, 1958

Dec. 7, 2018

An all night wake service was held Dec. 11 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla. Funeral service was held Dec. 12 at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Clinton Indian Cemetery.

Bernade Martinez

Aug. 15, 1968

Dec. 23, 2018

Funeral service was held Dec. 28 at the Sunny Lane Funeral Home in Del City, Okla., followed by an interment at the Sunny Lane Cemetery.

Pauch Parion Twes

Oct. 23, 1961

Dec. 20, 2018

Wake service was held Dec. 23 at the Cedar Creek Methodist Church in Carnegie, Okla. Funeral service was held Dec. 24 at the same venue, followed by an interment at the Cedar Creek Cemetery.
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

To apply please submit a tribal application, resume, diploma(s), transcripts, valid copy of driver’s license and a copy of CDIB (if applicable) to the Personnel Department, PO Box 38, Concho, OK 73022 or call 405-422-7498 or email atisdale@c-a-tribes.org.

House Parent

Emergency Youth Shelter-FT / On Call Position Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:
Must possess CPR and First Aid Certification or be willing to attend various training programs to obtain certification. Must pass pre-employment drug screening process and be subject to random drug testing. Should be able to lift, at a minimum, 50 lbs. with no physical barriers from doing so. Must possess the ability to communicate effectively to patrons and superiors any findings, incidents, activities and daily responsibilities. Must possess a high school diploma and possible completion of a commercial driving training program and/or defensive driving program. Must have an acceptable driving record and if selected for the position, must provide a current Motor Vehicle Report (MVR) from the State Department of Public Safety.

SALARY: Negotiable

Transit Drive II – FT Tribal Transit Program Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:
Must possess CPR and First Aid Certification or be willing to attend various training programs to obtain certification. Must pass pre-employment drug screening process and be subject to random drug testing. Should be able to lift, at a minimum, 50 lbs. with no physical barriers from doing so. Must possess the ability to communicate effectively to patrons and superiors any findings, incidents, activities and daily responsibilities. Must possess a high school diploma and possible completion of a commercial driving training program and/or defensive driving program. Must have an acceptable driving record and if selected for the position, must provide a current Motor Vehicle Report (MVR) from the State Department of Public Safety.

SALARY: Negotiable

Prevention Specialist Dept. of Health Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:
Current valid state of Oklahoma driver’s license is required and high school diploma Bachelor’s degree in health related field preferred or related work experience. Must be able to work with multiple community, state, tribal and outside agencies to coordinate and develop grant activities. Cheyenne-Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Cook Aide Clinton Head Start Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:
Preference to head start parents. High school diploma or G.E.D. certification required. Must be in good physical health and free from communicable diseases. Experience in food preparation is desirable.

SALARY: Negotiable

LEGALS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

KELLY EDWARD BROWN
Plaintiff
vs.

BRENNAN LEYTHEM
Defendant

Case No. 102871-14

Notice is hereby published that BRYAN E. WHITE has been appointed Guardian of MINNIE CHILDERS, a minor, Case No. 102871-14. All persons having any claims against MINNIE CHILDERS are required to file their complaints in the Probate Court in Concho County, Oklahoma, not later than January 10, 2015.

Published: September 25, 2014

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ALMA MCCULLOUGH
Plaintiff
vs.

JACOB COTTER
Defendant

Case No. 102871-14

Notice is hereby published that PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO has been appointed Guardian of PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO, a minor, Case No. 102871-14. All persons having any claims against PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO are required to file their complaints in the Probate Court in Concho County, Oklahoma, not later than January 10, 2015.

Published: September 25, 2014

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

JACOB COTTER
Plaintiff
vs.

PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO
Defendant

Case No. 102871-14

Notice is hereby published that PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO has been appointed Guardian of PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO, a minor, Case No. 102871-14. All persons having any claims against PHYLLIS M. GUGLIELMO are required to file their complaints in the Probate Court in Concho County, Oklahoma, not later than January 10, 2015.

Published: September 25, 2014
What is the biggest academic accomplishment in the classroom that you love the best? 
I try to do good work in every class because we’re always classifying students. Last year we lost by .01 in P.E. to get first place, but I got second place in tennis. I like competing hand.

What is the key to your success? 
I’ve had a lot of practice, and I’ve also had a lot of time to think about it. I’ve always been a good tennis player, and I’ve always had a lot of good teachers and coaches who have helped me.

What do you think is the best advice you’ve ever received? 
I don’t know if I’ve had any real desire to do it. It’s just always been there. I’ve always wanted to be good at what I do, and that’s what I’ve been working towards for a long time.

What do you want to be when you grow up? 
I’ve always wanted to be a professional tennis player, and I hope to make it to the U.S. Open someday.

What do you think is the most important thing you’ve learned from playing tennis? 
I think the most important thing I’ve learned is to never give up. Even when things aren’t going well, I always try to keep going and fight through it.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to become a professional tennis player? 
I think the best advice I can give is to never give up. It’s not easy, but if you’re willing to work hard and never give up, you can achieve your goals.

What is your most memorable experience on the tennis court? 
I think the most memorable experience I’ve had was when I won the U.S. Open last year. It was an amazing feeling to be there and represent my country.

What is your proudest moment in your tennis career? 
I think my proudest moment was when I won the French Open last year. It was a dream come true for me.

What is your next goal? 
I want to win the Australian Open this year. It’s always been a goal of mine, and I hope to make it happen this year.
Family, friends, and business owners came out in force to help kick off a year-long celebration to mark the 50th Anniversary of Dean’s Drive Thru Pawn Shop located in Capitol Hill. Dean’s is the oldest pawn shop in Oklahoma City, the only drive-thru in Oklahoma, has offered mailing and shipping services for the United States Postal Service for over 14 years, and carries one of the most extensive selections of Native American goods in the state.

State Representative Forrest Bennett, House District 92, presented Brett Fisher (owner of Dean’s Drive Thru Pawn) with an official Citation acknowledging all of their historical accomplishments. Brett introduced his amazing team, Jamie Crowe, Membership Chair of the South Oklahoma City Chamber, presented a special certificate and officiated the Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies.

Brett shared highlights of Dean’s and thanked everyone for their business. His love and appreciation for his wife, Durinda, his family, friends, and the entire Dean’s Drive Thru Pawn Shop team was evident during his emotional introductions. “Who knew that my parent’s trip to see family in Kansas would bring us to where we are today,” said Brett. He also added that everyone should be watching their Facebook and other forms of advertising and media as there would be some amazing surprises and giveaways over the course of the next 12 months.

Sarah Miller, owner of La Confection, provided an amazing spread of specialty baked goods along with the help of her Mom, Gloria Torres. Door prize winners included: Melissa Preciado - 50th Anniversary Goody Basket, Shannon Davis - La Confection Gift Certificate, and Stan Bonavich - Chelino’s Mexican Restaurant Gift Certificate.