



# Kanza News

July 2022





## Letter From The Chair



Hawe' Kaa'ze Nikashi'ga

As the summer solstice has come upon us, I pray that all are able to be relieved from the heat while also enjoying the activities that this season brings.

I have already enjoyed several dances and look forward to the 46th Annual Kaw Nation Powwow. The culture committee did quite well in presenting the powwow during Washunga Days at Council Grove.

The Kaw Nation is doing very well financially. Rock and Brews Casino opened in May and has continued to draw a crowd and revenue. The stores are being managed very successfully. The gift shop is doing exceptionally well and has been receiving orders from other tribes for Pendleton items. I am looking forward to the development of Kaw Nation Industries through our Federal Corporate Charter.

This will be my last article as the Chairwoman. Kaw Nation will have a new Chair when the next newsletter comes out this Winter. I have had some very hard times in my family during my term. For this reason, I have decided not to run for a second term and to spend as much time as I can with my family. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the Kaa'ze Nikashi'ga as Vice Chair and as the Chairman. We weathered the pandemic and persevered during difficult times. The changes I initiated could not have come to fruition without the assistance of the tribal council, the hard-working employees, the committees and the Kaa'ze nikashi'ga that encouraged and advised me.

May the Creator bless each home and all inhabitants.

Gaw go hnaw'  
Wito' be ta min'kh

## 2022 Kaw Nation Program Fair

Several Kaw Nation service departments gathered at City Central in Ponca City on June 29th to kick off this year's 2022 Program Fair. The purpose of this event is to educate the community regarding all of the services and programs that are made available by Kaw Nation. Departments in attendance included Injury Prevention, Diabetic Program, Human Development/Education, Child Care,

Veteran Services, and many more. Snacks, merchandise, and door prizes were provided by Kaw Nation.

Visitors were also able to obtain educational materials as well as speak with department representatives directly. This year's Program Fair proved to be an incredible resource to the community and gained much exposure to those in need of the many services and programs that we offer.

We look forward to further increasing community awareness and hosting this event as often as possible moving forward.



## Attention Kaw Nation Citizen-Owned Small Businesses

The Kaw Nation tribal council has developed a Small Business Grant Program for Kaw Nation citizen-owned small businesses and farm/ranch operations that have been active since 2019 or before. This grant is in the amount of \$20,000 or 10% of annual revenue for 2019. Applications may be downloaded from the website and mailed to Kaw Nation, PO Box 50, Kaw City, OK, 74641 in the attention of Steven Landsberry. All applications will be sent to a third party for review and recommendation. Applications must be complete. Eligibility: Must be at least 51% owner of a private, for-profit business with less than 500 employees that was in operation in 2019 or earlier. Applicant must also be an enrolled member of Kaw Nation.



### Dental Department Gives Children Smiles

Directed by the Indian Health Service, the Kanza Dental Clinic was chosen to collaborate with the nationwide company Henry Schein, for the "Give Kids A Smile" initiative. The local "Give Kids A Smile" event was held at the Kaw Nation Child Care Development Center on May 25th, 2022.



The aim of "Give Kids A Smile" was to directly screen the children for dental conditions, deliver fluoride therapy, and educate kids about dental hygiene all in hopes of reducing the dental diseases in children of all ages. With the help of Lesley, a regional director from Henry Schein, the dental clinic was provided all the necessary tools to make this initiative succeed.

The direct services provided to the children included dental screenings and fluoride applications. Educational pamphlets and oral hygiene kits were also sent to the homes of children to aid in dental hygiene habits at home.



## New Kaw Nation Hires

### Welcome to the Team

**Melvina Aupperle** - DV Shelter - 4/2/2022  
**Melissa Littlevoice** - Clinic LPN - 4/4/2022  
**Megan Goddard** - Day Care - 4/5/2022  
**Patti King** - Clinic Receptionist - 4/6/2022  
**Ty Leclair** - Transportation - 4/11/2022  
**Melissa Vap** - Receptionist - 4/14/2022  
**Monica Longoria** - Clinic - 4/18/2022  
**Megan Ramsey** - Clinic - 5/2/2022  
**Daniel Pappan** - HR Clerk - 5/16/2022  
**Steven Landsberry** - ARPA Manager - 5/18/2022  
**Michael Mace** - ICW Admin Assistant - 5/23/2022  
**Dawn Kinnersley** - Day Care - 5/31/2022  
**Heather Sweezy** - DV Elder Project Manager - 5/31/2022  
**Toby Weant** - Land Management Intern - 6/7/2022  
**Devon Littledeer** - EPA Intern - 6/8/2022  
**Emylee Mowdy** - Janitor - 6/13/2022

## An Loving Memory

### OF OUR KAW MEMBERS

**Cathy S. Brouillette**  
D.O.D. - 04/02/2022  
**Scott A. Morris**  
D.O.D. - 04/12/2022  
**Michael S. Shortteeth**  
D.O.D. - 04/22/2022  
**Kameron R. Klima**  
D.O.D. - 04/22/2022  
**Jeffrey A. Benbrook**  
D.O.D. - 04/29/2022  
**Marcelline A. Mansin**  
D.O.D. - 05/03/2022  
**Barbara J. Ergle**  
D.O.D. - 06/05/2022  
**Mary B. Butler**  
D.O.D. - 06/23/2022

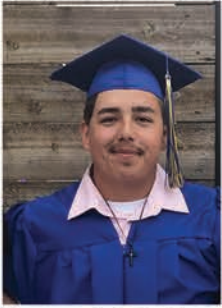
**COME WORK FOR KAW NATION**  
**COMPETITIVE PAY & GREAT BENEFITS!**  
**SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE CURRENT OPENINGS**





# Recent Graduates

## High School Graduates



**Devon Littledeer**  
Newkirk HS



**Gabriel Taylor**  
Jenks HS



**Mikayla Elmore**  
Wellington HS



**Toby Weant**  
Newkirk HS



**Paxton Coons**  
Union HS

## Higher Education Graduates



### Dr. George Thomas Atkins II

Thomas graduated with a Doctor of Medicine Degree on May 9, 2022 from the University of Tennessee Health and Science Center in Memphis TN. He received his undergraduate from Vanderbilt University in Nashville TN. He is the son of Kim Hardy Atkins, the grandson of George Bryce Hardy, and the great grandson of Stanford George Hardy.

He would like to thank the Kaw Nation for their support with a special thanks to Ms. Karen Howe. Without them this wouldn't have been possible.



### Julissa Garcia

Julissa graduated with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Exercise Science from Tabor College in Hillsboro, KS. Julissa plans to move forward with a Master's Degree in Sports Psychology.

Julissa is the daughter of Rebecca Monhatwa and Rudy Garcia and the granddaughter of current Chair, Lynn Williams.

### Cyntyia D. Lloyd

Cyntyia recently graduated from The University of Oklahoma with a Master of Social Work degree. She is the daughter of Cynthia Lloyd and granddaughter of Salina Yarbrough.

Cyntyia's descendency goes further back as the great granddaughter of Tom conn and great-great granddaughter of Silas and Abby.



### Ashlynn Mercer

Ashlynn Mercer graduated May 7, 2022 from Cowley County Community College majoring in Physical Therapy.

Ashlynn is the daughter of Jesse and Chrissy Mercer as well as the granddaughter of Gary and Jackie Taylor.



**Callie Snider**  
Associate's Degree - Nursing  
Oklahoma State University



**Kaley Thigpen**  
Master of Business Administration  
Pittsburg State University



**Tina Elliot**  
Barber Certification  
Ponca City Beauty College



**Daniel Pappan**  
Bachelor's Degree - Political Science  
Northwestern Oklahoma State University



## Academic Achievements



**Noelani Villa**, a proud Kaw Nation tribal member, is a Ph.D. student in Civil Engineering at the University of New Mexico. She received a Fulbright NAF Fellowship in Flood Management in Netherlands. Her fellowship allows her to spend nine months as an independent researcher at the Delft University of Technology. Through hydrodynamic modeling, she hopes to demonstrate the importance of tidal marsh restoration in flood risk mitigation. During her fellowship, she will receive mentorship from Dr. Jose Alvarez Antolinez at the Delft University of Technology and Dr. Bregji van Wesenbeeck at Deltares, an independent institute for applied research in water. Her goal is to use the knowledge she develops during her time abroad to support the restoration efforts of Coast Salish communities in Washington State. Her Ph.D. advisor is Dr. Mark Stone, Professor and Regent's Lecturer at the Department of Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering.

## It Runs in the Family!

When it comes to education, the Wall Family has an ever-growing list of graduates. This year's graduation of Brian, Madelynne, Megan, and Jessica certainly adds to the inventory of family credentials.

This also marks a great honor for John Wall, with all four of his Kaw Nation Tribal Member children obtaining post-graduate degrees. The Kaw Nation would like to congratulate John and his family on their incredible achievements, as we look forward to their bright future ahead.



Brian Wall, MLS-Indigenous Peoples Law, University of Oklahoma School of Law  
Madelynne Wall, BFA Drama, New York University  
Jessica Benton, MBA-Accounting, Southeastern Oklahoma State University



## Kaw Nation Represented at Oklahoma Boys State

Geronimo Quilimaco Jr. was selected to attend Oklahoma Boys State this May 28 – June 4th, 2022 at Rogers State University in Claremore, OK. The Oklahoma American Legion Boys State is an intense week of non-partisan leadership, government, and patriotism sponsored by the American Legion of Oklahoma. Delegates to Boys State have just completed their junior year of high school and have been selected by their local American Legion Post as a representative of the best of their community.

He was one of 11 boys as well as the only Kaw Nation member who represented Ponca City High School at this event. The Kaw Nation very proud of Geronimo and what he is accomplishing in his High School years.

## ATTENTION KAW NATION TRIBAL MEMBERS:

**Please keep our Citizen Enrollment Department updated on all Tribal Member information. This includes addresses, phone numbers, and name changes.**

**Citizen Enrollment Phone Number: (580) 269-2137 Fax: (580) 269-6060**



# WASHUNGA DAYS POWWOW



June 17th & 18th marked another successful gathering at the Annual Washunga Day's Powwow in Council Grove, Kansas. The Powwow coordinator, Jaelin Kent, reported a record number of over 400 people in attendance on the second day.

"I am thrilled to see this event showing continual growth and exposure amongst our Native population."

Marked by the dedication of the Dance Arbor in 2015, this Kaw Powwow has been a staple event within the Washunga Days Music Festival every year since. Prior to this, the powwow program was held at the Kaw Mission going back to the late 80's. Contestants from all over the central plains arrived to participate in the various contest categories with the winners enjoying bragging rights and cash prizes.

## Powwow Winners



**Golden Age Women**

1st Place – LaVina Clark  
2nd Place – Karen Wadwasuck  
3rd Place – Little Carol Clark



**Golden Age Men**

1st Place – Sonny Shoptese  
2nd Place – Tim Robinson Jr.  
3rd Place – Jim Pepper Henry



**Adult Women's Cloth**

1st Place – Katlyn Begs-his-own  
2nd Place – Storm Brave  
3rd Place – Shawwana Smith



**Adult Men's Straight**

1st Place – Jerod Buffalohead  
2nd Place – Jason Murray  
3rd Place – Jason Choate



**Adult Men's Traditional & Grass**

1st Place – Keesis Potts  
2nd Place – Trilby Wahwasuck



**Adult Men's Fancy**

1st Place – Greg Victors  
2nd Place – Wiley Potts



**Jr Girl's Cloth**

1st Place – Sandra LeClair  
2nd Place – Maudie Jones  
3rd Place – Anna Spotted Bear  
4th Place – Ki Ann Murray



**Jr Boy's Straight, Traditional, Grass, and Fancy**

1st Place – Jim Warren  
2nd Place – Maximus Free  
3rd Place – Seth Warren  
4th Place – Bear Donelson



**Kaw Nation Powwow Grounds | Kaw City | August 5th - 7th**

**12613 East Furguson Road Kaw City, Oklahoma 74641**

# **46TH ANNUAL KAW NATION POWWOW**

## **FRIDAY**

REGISTRATION 6-8PM  
FLAG CEREMONY 7PM  
PRINCESS CORONATION 7:30PM  
GRAND ENTRY 8PM  
TINY TOTS  
JR. & TEEN DIVISION CONTESTS

## **SATURDAY**

YOUTH ACTIVITIES 9AM  
GOURD DANCE 2PM  
SPECIALS  
REGISTRATION 6-8PM  
FLAG CEREMONY 7PM  
GRAND ENTRY 8PM  
WOMEN'S DIVISION CONTEST  
SPECIAL 49 CONTEST

## **SUNDAY**

GOURD 2PM  
SPECIALS  
BREAK 5PM  
FLAG CEREMONY 7PM  
GRAND ENTRY 8PM  
MEN'S DIVISION CONTEST

## **CONTEST CATEGORIES:**

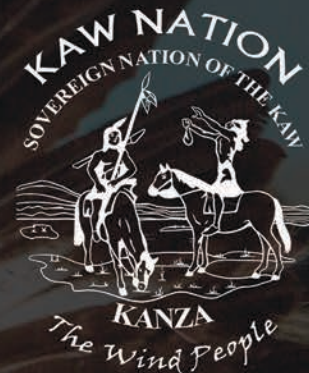
MEN AND WOMEN GOLDEN AGE 55 AND OLDER  
SENIOR MEN AGES 19-54: STRAIGHT, TRADITIONAL, GRASS, AND FANCY  
SENIOR WOMEN AGES 19-54: CLOTH, BUCKSKIN, FANCY, AND JINGLE  
TEEN BOY AGES 13-18: STRAIGHT, TRADITIONAL, GRASS, AND FANCY  
TEEN GIRLS AGES 13-18: CLOTH, BUCKSKIN, FANCY, AND JINGLE  
JUNIOR BOY AGES 7-12: STRAIGHT, TRADITIONAL, GRASS, AND FANCY  
JUNIOR GIRL AGES 7-12: CLOTH, BUCKSKIN, FANCY, AND JINGLE  
TINY TOTS 6 AND UNDER: FRIDAY NIGHT  
49 CONTEST

**ALL CONTESTANTS MUST REGISTER IN ONLY ONE CATEGORY,  
BE IN TWO GRAND ENTRIES AND WEARING NUMBER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES.**

**TINY TOTS NEED NOT REGISTER.**

**PRIZE MONEY WILL BE AWARDED ON SUNDAY.**

**CONTEST WINNERS MUST BE COMPLETELY DRESSED IN FULL REGALIA TO RECEIVE PRIZE MONEY.**



## *Head Staff*

**LESTER EAGLE / LITTLEBEAR LITTLECOOK / JOSEPH JONES / TAMMY CLARK CLING**  
MASTER OF CEREMONIES HEAD SINGER HEAD MAN DANCER HEAD LADY DANCER

**WICHITA KANSAS INTER-TRIBAL WARRIOR SOCIETY / OJ LITTLECOOK / KYLEIGH WARREN / SANDRA LECLAIR**  
HOST GOURD GROUP ARENA DIRECTOR OUTGOING PRINCESS INCOMING PRINCESS

**CLAY DONELSON / AARON LECLAIR JR. / SAM SPOTTED BEAR**  
WATER BOYS

## **VETERAN'S MEAL**

AUGUST 5TH 12PM  
POWWOW GROUNDS

## **MOURNER'S MEAL**

JULY 31ST 10AM  
POWWOW GROUNDS

## **VENDORS**

FOOD CONCESSION, ARTS & CRAFTS SPACE AVAILABLE - CONTACT MAGGI SMITH (580) 491-2595 OR CANDY LECLAIR (580) 304-4943  
NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ALLOWED ON GROUNDS. KAW NATION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFTS, ACCIDENTS, OR INJURIES



## Rock & Brews Braman Celebrates Grand Opening

The Kaw Nation-owned Rock & Brews Casino in Braman, Oklahoma commemorated the official opening of the entire establishment on May 10th. Executive management, the Tribal Council, as well as Chair Lynn Williams were in attendance to celebrate this momentous event. Marked by a ribbon cutting, live music performances, and free play to those in attendance; Rock & Brews Braman set the bar for fun and excitement that guests can expect moving forward.

When people come to visit and play at the Rock & Brews Casino, they become the rock star.” stated Bruce Mclure, the Establishment’s General Manager.

All parties involved have worked around the clock to bring this new experience into the timing of Kaw Nation’s expansion. From the planning stages years back, to now being in full operation; the vision to build a modern replacement to the previous Southwind Casino has officially come to fruition.

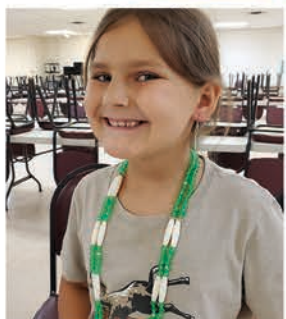


## 2022 JOM Summer Camp

Held on June 6th through June 10th, the JOM Academic & Cultural Summer Camp provided a fun and educational experience for the attending students. Transportation was provided and the camp ran daily from 9am to 3pm. All 5 days were filled with planned activities and cultural enrichment lessons. Along with learning to make fry bread and

beaded necklaces, children also enjoyed playing stickball.

The Kanza Human Development Division would like to thank everybody who made this year’s summer camp possible including Kaw Nation Child Care, the cultural & academic specialists, Newkirk Public Schools, and the cooks & helpers.





### Kaá'ze Ie Youth Powwow

Congratulations Maycie Brandt, our 2022 Language Princess!

Yáli Wáli Shkághe Brandy Wood, outgoing Princess!

Cash Beard led the afternoon Gourd Dances.

*A big thanks to everyone who helped make our powwow a great success!*

### Congratulations

Team Tajé Sage Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair Winners! Yáli Wáli Shkághe!

### 1st Place Winners

Brandy Wood, Poem

Makiah Brandt, Indian Clothes

Austin Wood, Stand-Up Comedy Skit

### 2nd Place Winners

Maycie Brandt, Prayer

Katzy Buffalohead, Months

Thomas, Anna, & Irene Spottedbear, Playing Uno

### 3rd Place Winners

Jacey Pappan, Nature Video

Kaá'ze Zhi'ga Zhi'ga Tapóska Ci, Learning Songs

Performances can be seen on the ONALYF YouTube Channel!



### Kaá'ze Ie Department Upcoming Events

Look for our youth's Turtle Race at the Kaá'ze Powwow, Saturday from 9 a.m. to Noon!

Team Tajé Sage has been invited to perform at Charlie Adams Day in Newkirk again, September 10, 2022.



## New Employee Spotlight

Kaw Nation is excited to welcome Kaw Nation member Daniel Pappan to our Human Resources Department. As the son of Michael & Jeannie Pappan, Daniel has lived in Kaw City his whole life and is a former employee of Kaw City. On May 16th, Daniel Pappan was recruited as HR Clerk and is looking forward to bringing additional value to the department.

Daniel graduated from Ponca City High School in 2018, where he excelled academically as a top graduate. He then went on to attend Northern Oklahoma College where he graduated with an Associates degree in Criminal Justice Administration. Most recently, Daniel acquired a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science with a minor in Psychology at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in 2022.

"Working for Kaw Nation is a great opportunity and it feels right to bring my education and skillset to the tribe." stated Daniel regarding his new position.



## Chilocco Monument Provides Name Recognition

As the result of Federal defunding in the 1980's, the native boarding school commonly known as Chilocco Indian Agricultural School was forced to discontinue educational programs that had celebrated graduates going back to 1894.

While the majority of the buildings and facilities have since become battered remnants of what they once were, some aspects of this formerly thriving campus are continually maintained. Amongst these are the Chilocco Cemetery where the unmarked graves of students who passed more than a century ago reside. Finding the cemetery requires a guide or detailed instructions, as much of the area is overgrown. Upon arriving, however, one will find the cemetery well-kept and cared for. Surrounded by metal fencing that connects at an entrance gate, the site

has an aura of importance and appreciation upon arrival.

Until recently, the nameless sites within the grounds might leave visitors with a fragmented feeling of wanting to know more about those that rest there. With painstaking collective research done by alumni along with funding from a Kaw Nation grant, a new monument has

been dedicated to the Chilocco Cemetery. Standing over 7 feet tall, this monument respectfully provides the names and tribal information that the gravestones lack.





# Kaw Nation 2022 Election Information

Citizens of the Kaw nation are hereby notified that an election will be held September 11, 2022 for the purpose of filling the following positions: **Chair, Tribal Council Secretary, Tribal Council Member #1 and Tribal Council Member #3.**

The Election is conducted in accordance with Article IX, pursuant to Section 4 of the Constitution of the Kaw Nation ratified on August 20th, 2011, and as amended on April 29, 2016.

## Voter Qualifications:

A qualified voter must be an enrolled citizen of the Kaw Nation, be 18 years of age or older on the date of the election, and not have been adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction.



## Absentee Voting

***The last day that a written request for an absentee ballot can be received by the Election Board is August 12, 2022.*** Voter may request an Absentee Ballot from the Election Board. Please send written requests to:

**Kaw Nation Election Board  
P.O. Box 48  
Kaw City, OK 74641  
Or by fax:  
Kaw Nation Election Board  
580-269-1195**

Upon receipt of written request containing the voter's signature, the Election Board shall mail in an absentee ballot to the requester. Absentee ballots must be returned in the pre-addressed mailing envelopes provided with the ballot. Ballots must be returned by postal mail to the above address, no later than September 10, 2022. No ballots will be accepted in person or at any other location.

## Election Results:

Immediately following the tabulation of the ballots, the Election Board shall issue an unofficial canvass of the Election results. The Election Board shall issue the Certified Election Results after the expiration of

the protest period at 12:00pm on September 14, 2022 or after the resolution of any challenges received by the Election Board, whichever is later. Election results will be posted at the appropriate Tribal Offices as well as being released to all appropriate media outlets at the conclusion of the election.

**Election Date:**  
September 11, 2022

**Polling Location:**  
698 Grandview Drive, Kaw City, Oklahoma  
74641

**Candidate Filing Date:**  
March 14 - March 18, 2022  
8pm - 4pm at Kaw Nation Administration  
Building

**Candidates:**  
**Chuck Pontious - Chair**  
**Kim Jenkins - Chair**  
**Keesha Vicchio - Seat #1**  
**Wes Pappan - Seat #1**  
**Jaelin Kent - Seat #3**  
**Debbie Lewman - Seat #3**  
**Carol Clark - Secretary**

## Candidate Spotlights

### Charles Pontious - Chair Candidate

I am 59 Years Old and have been married for 36 years. I have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. In my lifetime, I don't think we as a people have ever clearly defined who we are, what we stand for and what we want to accomplish. I think it's time we come together and establish these things. It's time for us to realize that our future is in our hands and we are responsible for creating that future. There are almost no limits to what we, as a united Kaw nation, can accomplish. We must move forward. It's Time...

#### Work history:

- Manville Sales Corp (inspector)
- Conklin Cars (Sales, Finance Mgr., Sales Mgr)
- Copart Auto Auctions (Gen. Mgr)

Favorite quote - "One thing's for sure, if we keep doing what we are doing, we are going to keep getting what we are getting. One definition of insanity is to keep doing the same thing and expect different results". Stephen R Covey

Political platform-Honesty, Integrity, and Respect.

Political slogan- "It's Time"

**For details inquire: [charlespontious256@gmail.com](mailto:charlespontious256@gmail.com) or [charles.pontious@rockandbrewscasinobraman.com](mailto:charles.pontious@rockandbrewscasinobraman.com)**

### Kim Jenkins - Chair Candidate

Hawé, my name is Kimberly (Kim) Jenkins, the daughter of Roy Lee and Diana Ball, granddaughter of Roy and Maggie (Bowker) Ball, and great granddaughter of Tom-pah-pe and Kekahbah. I have been involved with the Tribe my whole life and have served in various leadership positions. I am running for Kaw Nation Chair and asking for your vote on September 11th. As your current Tribal Council Secretary, I have gained invaluable knowledge that is needed to be the Chair of Kaw Nation. The last four years as Tribal Council Secretary have given me insight on what it takes, and what our people need from their Tribal government. My focus will be on preserving our Culture, more involvement with our youth and elders, moving forward with our Corporate Charter, and ultimately exercising the Tribe's sovereignty. I understand the importance of accountability, follow through, and communication between employees and our Tribal citizens. As Tribal Chair, I will strive to best serve our Kaw Citizens and employees.



## **Candidate Spotlights**

### **Keesha Vicchio - Seat #1**

Hawé. My name is Keesha Vicchio and I am running for Tribal Council Seat 1. I am the daughter of the late Carol Estes and Jeff Hansen. Granddaughter of Dollretta Estes and Great Granddaughter of Maudie McCauley Clark Rowe. I am the proud mother of 4 wonderful children. The oldest of which is currently serving in the USAF. I have been a Pharmacy Technician for 11 years and currently work at Kanza Pharmacy for the last 3 years.

When I first accepted the job at the Clinic, I was told that it is sometimes hard to work for your own tribe. You see first hand the issues and problems. On the other hand, it puts me in a unique position to help solve them. Since working there, I have helped to implement policies and procedures to better assist our patients, as well as help in providing different options to help with medication adherence. I have also helped with technology updates, including text alerts. I understand the importance of technology in today's society and hope to use that knowledge to better serve our community.

I am currently serving on the Cultural Committee as Vice Chair. My hope is to get my generation more involved, as well as the next generation. We all have to be more involved to progress. With new ideas come new possibilities.

My goal is to make a better future for our kids, since our youth is our future. Our tribe has the potential to have a great future with the right leadership and direction. I look forward to the opportunity to serve our tribe with commitment and passion for the Kanza people and preserve our culture.

Wíblaha,

Keesha Vicchio

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### **Jaelin Kent - Seat #3**

Hawé Zaaní,

I am Jaelin Dollretta Kent and I am running for Tribal Council seat 3. I have resided in this area my whole life and have had the privilege of having two Kaánze grandparents guide and shape who I am, John Test and Carol Estes. Both of my grandparents put value in service to the Kaw Nation and I plan to carry on that tradition. I am educated and I am not afraid of hard work. I have been working for the Kaw Nation since July 2020. Most recently I was promoted to Director of Procurement, I serve on the Budget Committee, and I am the Chair of the Cultural Committee. I have learned a lot about the day-to-day workings within the tribal administrative offices, and this has inspired me to seek a higher office to make a positive difference in these challenging times. I hope I will prove to set myself apart from the normal candidate for Tribal Council by infusing youth and energy into the role. I hope to inspire others that are younger to step up and get involved. I was raised to honor my elders and care for the youth, but I feel sometimes those of us in the middle get overlooked. One of the platforms I am running on will be to improve the communication channels outside of the local administration offices. I've gone to many general council meetings where people are asking why they didn't know about a program or service that would help them. This is 2022 and there is no excuse for information not getting out to those it could help.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at **580-362-6433** or **[jkent@kawnation.com](mailto:jkent@kawnation.com)** if you would like to talk about how we can make a difference.

Wíblaha,

Jaelin Dollretta Kent - Tajé Yáli (Good Wind)

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### **Debbie Lewman - Seat #3**

My name is Debbie Lewman and I am a candidate for Tribal Council #3 position. My Grandfather was Alvin Pappan(Waddie) and my Mother was Maxine Pappan Cravens.

I have served the past 4 years on the Tribal Council and I am seeking re-election for another term. I have worked for the Nation for 26 years in an Administration capacity, beginning at Kanza Clinic and currently the Director of Kaw Housing. I have met many of our Tribal Citizens over the years and I have always listened to our peoples concerns. We need to advance our Nation forward for our future generations. I am a hard worker, good listener and passionate about Kaw Nation. I can promise you I will work for you in any decisions I make. I would very much appreciate your vote in September.

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### **Carol Clark - Secretary**

I am Little Carol Clark, daughter of Elmer and Naomi Murray Clark. My brother is Claude Clark. I was very fortunate to have grown up with my two full-blood grandmothers; one Kaánze, Maude McCauley Clark Rowe and the other Potawatomi, Arkangel Agatha Delonis Murray. I used to see these ladies every day hearing old stories, learning Kaánze words and a little Potawatomi, learned to make traditional clothing, and took trips with them, one on each side in the back seat. I was also old enough to grow up playing on the Arkansas River in Washunga Táman with my cousins. One of my fondest memories was, when we all would go to river in Washunga and have picnics with my Aunt Grace, she would make fried chicken and my dad would get us local watermelons.

I worked as a Cosmetologist for 25 years in Oklahoma and Florida. While in Florida, I was a Military Barber at Camp Blanding, Florida during Desert Storm. I also worked at Kaw Nation Bingo when it opened and went on to work in almost every department in the Casino throughout the years, Newkirk location. I have also worked at the Kaw Nation several times in several different departments. I came from the Pawnee Nation accounts payable department, returning to Kaw Nation in 2016; at that time, in the Accounting Department, transferring to Finance Assistant, after I finished my vocation as Full Charge Bookkeeper and Office Manager. I am currently the Kaw Nation Library and Learning Center Coordinator. One of my greatest accomplishments was working on and completing the current Kaw Nation Constitution, from beginning to end, which took approximately 10 years. It was certified by Kaw Nation General Council on August 20, 2011. I live in Kaw City, and I have four children, Cameron Colt Donelson, rancher and business owner, Amanda Grace Wamego Buffalohead, Grant Manager, Desiree Storm Brave, Kaánze Language Director/Master Teacher and Actress, and Dewey Beartrack Donelson, rancher and business owner. I am proud of all of them for making their own ways, traditionally and in the Non-Traditional World. Each of them are members/decendents of the following tribes; Kaw, Osage, Potawatomi, Cheyenne, and Cherokee. I also have ten beautiful grandchildren I am proud of.

So, as you can tell my "Heart is Here" and with the Kaánze Níkashinga dan Zaanín, all Kaánze Níkashinga, Wíblahan.

Little Carol Clark

Gashénnan.





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# **LABOR DAY**

## **RAFFLE GIVEAWAY**

**Spend \$50 or more at these locations to enter the raffle.**

**Southwind Express  
&  
Woodridge Market**

**Win A  
Patio Set !**

**Gift Shop  
&  
Kaw Smoke Shops**

**Win A  
Fire Pit !**

**Winners will be drawn on September 2nd at 10am**