



Kanza News

January 2023



*Monument of The Unknown Kanza Warrior
Allegawaho Park - Council Grove, Kansas
-Photo by James Pepper Henry*



Hawé,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It was good to see everyone that was able to make the Kaw Citizen Christmas party. Santa was there providing the children with gifts and goodie bags. A special thank you for all that helped decorate, serve, and clean up afterwards.

The floors in our building are almost finished. Thank you for understanding about our mess during all this. Maintenance staff moved furniture in and out and even borrowed some help from other departments when needed. We appreciate all their hard work.

Tribal Council has been busy working on the ARPA funds, cemetery expansion, and broadband. I encourage everyone to visit the website regularly to make sure you don't miss out on any assistance that we have.

Our January General Council meeting was moved to January 15th, 2023. Tribal Council also voted to move the April Tribal Council meeting to April 15th and General Council meeting to April 16th, since the second weekend is Easter weekend. The next newsletter I will have several updates to share.

-Kimberly Jenkins
Kaw Nation Chair



Kaw Nation Foster Program

This is a great opportunity for those who feel it is their destiny to be a parent and haven't yet fulfilled that destiny to their satisfaction. No matter what stage of life you're in, if you have the resources, patience, and love to foster a child in need, you can learn more about parenting – and yourself – through foster care than in perhaps any other role.



Our Children Are Our Future You can make the difference.

By fostering a child in need of a safe place to call home, you are actively helping in the fight against poverty, high school dropout rates, substance abuse and so much more. You are also contributing in a way that changes the child's life while creating a lifelong bond.

How To Apply

- ✓ Contact Kaw Nation ICW to schedule an appointment
- ✓ Complete the foster care license application.
- ✓ Complete background release/Healthy History Form.
- ✓ Schedule a home study to determine if modifications are needed to pass safety inspections.

Application Requirements

- ✓ Must be at least 18 years old.
- ✓ Must be physically and emotionally capable of caring for children.
- ✓ No alcohol or drug problems.
- ✓ Must pass a criminal background check.
- ✓ No record of abusing or neglecting children.
- ✓ Must have ability and willingness to be a foster parent.
- ✓ Must have home that meets fire, safety, and sanitary standards.
- ✓ Must have a bed and enough space for foster child including privacy space with room for his/her belongings.

To inquire further, please contact Indian Child Welfare at (580) 269-2003

For Those in Need

Kaw Nation Social Services

(580) 269-1186



Andrew Means
Social Services Director

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, the Kaw Nation Social Services program is here to help. They understand that life can be difficult and unexpected circumstances can arise, and they want to be there for their community in those times.

The Kaw Nation

Social Services program offers a variety of services including water, energy, and emergency assistance. They also have programs specifically designed to help individuals and families with children, elders, and families of those who have passed.

If you're unsure whether you qualify for assistance, the Kaw Nation Social Services team encourages you to reach out to them anyway. They will work with you to determine what



Falon Long
Social Services Assistant

resources are available to you.

In addition to their own programs, the Kaw Nation Social Services team is also well-connected to local resources and can refer you to other organizations that may be able to assist you.

Services Available

EYEGLASS ASSISTANCE -	\$400 Every Two Years, Per Member (Kaw Tribe Only)
DENTAL ASSISTANCE -	\$500 Every Three Years, Per Member (Kaw Tribe Only)
HEARING AID -	\$1,000 Every Five Years, Per Member (Kaw Tribe Only)
HEADSTONE ASSISTANCE -	\$1,000 Per Member (Kaw Tribe Only)
BURIAL ASSISTANCE -	\$5,000 Per Member (Kaw Tribe Only)
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE -	\$300 Per Year, Per Household (Kaw Tribe Only)
ELDER ASSISTANCE -	\$300 Per Year, Per Household (Kaw Tribe Only)
LIHEAP ASSISTANCE -	Emergency Energy Assistance - Amount to be Determined. Cannot be used with other LIHEAP programs such as State or Tribe. (Any Tribe can apply)
LIHWAP ASSISTANCE -	Emergency Water Assistance - Amount to be Determined. Cannot be used with other LIHEAP programs such as State or Tribe. (Any Tribe can apply)
SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM -	\$150 Per Student, Pre-K Through 12th Grade. Income-Based Qualification (Kaw Tribe Only)
BIA WELFARE ASSISTANCE -	Amount determined by several factors. Must live in the Kaw Nation service area, be unemployed, and not receiving assistance from any other programs, including unemployment. (Any Tribe can apply)

New Hires

We would like to welcome the following employees to the Kaw Nation Team!

Alyssa Komesataddle - Clinic Receptionist - 11/7/2022

Jake Dreiling - IT Director - 11/28/2022

Kimberley Ebert - Shelter Staff - 11/30/2022

Lisa Trenary - Clinic Float - 12/5/2022

Sheryl Turner - Daycare Teacher - 1/3/2023

In Loving Memory

OF OUR KAW MEMBERS

Michael Eric Dennison

D.O.D. - 08/07/2022

Clyde Ernest Rickard

D.O.D. - 08/18/2022

Mary Lou Stephens

D.O.D. - 12/01/2023

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



Kaáⁿze Íe News

Kaáⁿze Íe Miⁿókaⁿje

(January/useless month)

Beginner's Level Kaáⁿze Íe Classes THURSDAYS

Miⁿókaⁿje 5, 2022

(January/useless month)

4:15pm-5:15pm

Location 1 (In Person)

Kaáⁿze Library/Language Center 803 Washunga Kaw City, Oklahoma.

Location 2 (Zoom/Smart Classroom)

White Plume/Newkirk

Johnny Ray McCauley Gymnasium East Doors

The Kaáⁿze Íe Department's Language Director, Storm Brave, spoke at Kansas State University on Indigenous People's Day, October 10, 2022. Team Tajé Sage participated in the Native Youth Summit in Tulsa that same day. A link to listen to Tapóska Storm is posted on our Facebook Page.

On November 5th, Team Tajé Sage participated in Ponca City's Veteran's Day Parade. The float displayed a beautiful banner with the last names of Kaáⁿze Veterans. The banner was graciously donated by Kanza Dentist, Nathan Parrish.

The department continues to push forward in the revitalization and awareness of Kaáⁿze language and culture. On December 11, 2022, Tapóska Storm Brave was featured on Kanza Radio's Podcast. A link to listen is posted on our Facebook Page.

A Grant Planning Team has been organized for the purpose of pursuing an ANA Preservation and Maintenance Grant. The team has met twice and is excited at the prospect of obtaining a grant to create engaging curriculum for the Youth, grades 6-12, using traditional stories, and cultural lessons in a

relatable format. The goal is to increase Kaáⁿze youth's knowledge and awareness of Kaáⁿze Íe through the conduit of culture. A survey will be passed out at the next General Council Meeting in January. They will also be available at both Kaáⁿze Íe Department locations, @ Kaw Nation Library & Learning Center and in Newkirk at the Johnny Ray McCauley Building.



Team Tajé to Enter Youth Language Fair

Team Tajé Sage has been hard at work preparing their skit, "Man in the Moon and the Turkeys," for the upcoming 2023 Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair. The team will be filming their skit the last week of December in anticipation for the fair, which will take place the first week of April at the Sam Noble Museum in

Norman, Oklahoma. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to celebrate and promote the rich cultural heritage of Native American languages. Make sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend the fair in April.

Language Department Contact Information

Storm Brave: dbrave@kawnation.com - (580) 269-2739

Susy Smith: asmith@kawnation.com

<https://kanzalearningsite.wixsite.com/website>

Summer Activities

The Kaw Nation JOM program collaborated with the Kaw Nation Childcare Center this past summer to build good relationships with the school age students through cultural activities. Of these projects included the, Tribal Chiefs, Native Design Bookmarks, Tribal Identity Cubes, Handgame, and the Three Sisters Garden Project.



The Three Sisters Garden Project employs a traditional companion-planting method in which three plants grow symbiotically to deter weeds and pests, enrich the soil, and support each other. Before planting, students painted their own garden rocks to lay in the garden bed. The students planted the corn, beans, and squash seeds on the east side of the daycare center. Students were able to water and tend to the garden. A big thank you to Skyler Mathews and the maintenance crew for building the garden beds and hauling in the soil for planting.



Incentives For Student Attendance & GPA

Throughout the school year, Kaw Nation JOM Program provides various incentives designed to reward perfect attendance and high GPA.

Every month, Sonic Burger gift cards are given out to all members with perfect attendance. We would also like to congratulate Braxton Forbeck, who was gifted a new Apple iPad as part of his perfect attendance for the entire 2021-2022 school year!

Every 8 weeks, gift cards are also provided to students that excel academically. Grades 3 through 6 receive a \$15 card for 2.5 - 3.4 GPA, and a \$20 card for 3.5 - 4.0. Grades 7 through 12 receive a \$20 card for 2.5 - 3.4 GPA, and a \$25 card for 3.5 - 4.0 GPA. Parents must email report cards to Nancy Musgrove at (nmusgrove@kawnation.com).



JOM Specialist, Justin Lane awards Braxton Forbeck a new iPad for a full year of perfect attendance.

JOM Announcements

Justin Lane, JOM Specialist, will be offering a Traditional Craft Program to 5th graders enrolled in JOM. This will start on October 11, 2022 and continue each Tuesday and Thursday at 3:05pm in the elementary school STEM Room and will end at 3:45pm. The Program will include instruction on basic beading techniques and finger weaving. Supplies will be provided. Justin also provides tutoring services, when needed, for all students in Pre-K to 12th grade at the Newkirk Public Schools. You may contact him at the Newkirk Elementary school or email: jlane@kawnation.k12.ok.us for any questions.

The JOM Program is also happy to announce that they are covering cap and gown fees for all qualified seniors!

2022 Halloween Celebrations



Our wonderful Kanza Clinic staff in thier awesome costumes.

The Kaw Nation had a spooktacular Halloween celebration this year! Children from Childcare Development came to trick-or-treat at the Kaw Nation administration offices, where they received plenty of treats and even got to show off their costumes.

In addition to trick-or-treating, there was a costume contest amongst the Kaw Nation departments. The Grants department took home the top prize, with the ICW Department coming in second and the Executive

Director, Cheri Dunn, winning third.

But the Halloween fun didn't stop there! The Kaw Nation also held a pumpkin carving contest, with the Transportation Department coming out on top. The Tag Office took second place, and the administration receptionists took home third.

Overall, it was a great Halloween celebration for the Kaw Nation, with plenty of fun and spooky activities for everyone to enjoy. We can't wait to see what the next holiday brings!

Costume Craze & Pumpkin Perfection



Grants Dept. Dinosaurs



ICW Dept. Rockstar



Exec Director & Injury Prevention



Accounting/Purchasing Fairy Duo



Tag Office Pumpkin Carving



Transportation Dept. Carving



Administration Receptionists Carving



Childcare Trick-Or-Treaters

Kaw Nation Christmas Party



December 11th marked this year's Kaw Nation Christmas Party, which was a huge success! Hundreds of people were in attendance as Chair Jenkins and her father, Roy Lee, gave a heartfelt blessing to kick off the festivities.

Santa made an appearance, and all the children in attendance received an age-appropriate gift, as well as a goodie bag filled with treats and fruit. The food for the party was catered by Stagecoach

BBQ in Newkirk, and it was a feast to remember. There was a delicious spread of turkey, ham, green beans, mashed potatoes with gravy, and dinner rolls. Lastly, guests enjoyed delicious pumpkin and pecan pie for dessert.

Overall, the Kaw Nation Christmas party was a truly special and memorable event. This time of year is always a wonderful opportunity for our tribal community to come together as we celebrate the holiday season and get into the Christmas spirit. We hope to see even more people at next year's party, as it is always a highlight of the year for the Kaw Nation. Thank you again to everyone who helped make this year's celebration such a success. Happy New year as well!



Festive Fun In Kaw City

The Kaw Nation administration offices celebrated the holiday season in ideal fashion. A definite highlight was our ornament crafting contest, where employees showcased their creativity and skill by crafting their best ornaments. The ornaments were displayed in the office and provided a colorful and festive atmosphere. Another popular event was the "ugly sweater" contest, where participants donned their most outrageous holiday sweaters and competed for the title of "ugliest sweater." The contest was a hit and got its fair share of holiday laughs. Overall, it was a wonderful holiday celebration at the Kaw Nation administration offices and everyone is already looking forward to next year's festivities.



Kaw Nation Injury Prevention Program

The Kaw Nation has a Tribal Injury Prevention Cooperative Agreement grant to conduct Injury Prevention work outlined in our work plan. One of the goals of the work plan is to reduce motor vehicle injuries, including ensuring car seats are being installed correctly and caregivers are educated on their use. Let's meet our Child Passenger Technicians! We started out with 3; LaVina Clark, Zoe Freeman and Christina Sprueill. This October, we have added 4 more; Melissa Littlevoice, Haley Johnston, Lindsey Spotted Bear, and Michael Mace. We endured 35-degree weather November 16th to do a Car Seat check in the University Learning Center parking lot (see article below).

Buckle Bear has made several appearances and we've done 2 presentations so far with more being scheduled with the local childcare centers. We talk to the children about car seat safety and the importance of them being in car seats. We also show them where the chest clip should be and that all buckles need to be buckled for their safety. At the end of each presentation, the children receive their own buckle bear to remind them how they need to be buckled in.

Starting in January 2023, we will be offering a new service of Elder Fall prevention. If you're an elder 55 and over, we can come and do an at-home assessment to find hazards that may increase risk of falling.

At-risk elders will qualify for such resources as grab bars, toilet seat risers, elevated toilet seats, tub grab bars, skid guard safety tape, anti-skid tread tape, shower mats, handheld shower heads with hose, and canes.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at **580-362-3558**, or come in for a visit at 95 Charles Curtis Lane, Newkirk, OK.

*-Lavina Clark
Injury Prevention Program Coordinator*



Our Kaw Nation Injury Prevention Team



Our Car Seat Safety Mascot, Buckle Bear

Ensuring Child Safety on the Road



On November 16th, The Kaw Nation Injury Prevention Program and Indian Health Service hosted a car seat checkup event at the University Learning Center in Ponca City. This event was designed to help caregivers ensure that their car seats are properly installed and up-to-date, in order to keep children safe while on the road.

Nationally certified technicians were on hand to provide one-on-one assistance to caregivers, showing them how to correctly install car seats and how to check those that are already in use. If necessary, caregivers were also provided with modern and appropriate car seats at no cost.

In addition to receiving help with their car seats, those who passed the inspection with their current car seats were given gift cards as a token of appreciation for their efforts to keep their children safe.

The importance of proper car seat use cannot be overstated. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), car accidents are the leading cause of death for children in the United States, and the proper use of car seats can significantly reduce the risk of injury or death in the event of an accident.

Overall, the car seat checkup event was a great success, with many caregivers taking advantage of the opportunity to have their car seats inspected and to learn more about how to keep their children safe while on the road. The Kaw Nation Injury Prevention Program and Indian Health Service plan to hold similar events in the future, so be sure to keep an eye out for future opportunities to have your car seat inspected and to learn more about car seat safety.

Kaw Nation Emergency Specialist

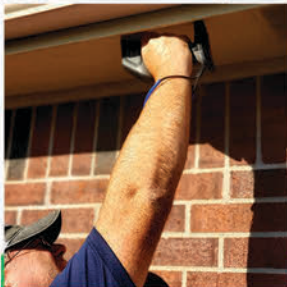
Daniel Hesson is a highly qualified and experienced emergency management professional who has lived in the greater Kay County and Northern Oklahoma area for the past 20 years. He grew up attending school in Ponca and Oklahoma City, and after graduating from high school, he pursued vocational training to become an EMT. He eventually obtained his basic, intermediate, and paramedic certifications, and is now a nationally registered paramedic who is certified to work in both Oklahoma and Kansas. In addition to his medical training, Hesson has also attended OSU and American Military University, and has 10 years of military service under his belt.

As the Kaw Nation Emergency Management Director, Hesson is responsible for overseeing a wide range of duties, including disaster

planning, emergency response, and coordinating with national, state, and local agencies. His job can be very spontaneous and dynamic, as he may be called upon to go from sitting in his office working on budgets and planning one moment, to being on the scene of an emergency situation the next. Hesson has a wealth of experience in the field, having previously worked as a firefighter paramedic for the Ponca City Fire Department, a flight paramedic for Air Evac, and a Sheriff's Deputy. The Kaw Nation is very fortunate to have someone as qualified and dependable as Daniel Hesson leading our emergency management department.



Emergency Management Department Phone: (580) 362-1232 Email: emergencymanagement@kawnation.com



Certified Lead-Based Paint Inspector, Cody Regnier

Have You Booked Your Inspection Yet?

Are you concerned about the safety of your home? The Kaw Nation Environment department is here to help! We are committed to protecting tribal homes and eliminating exposure to harmful substances like lead, asbestos, and mold. As part of our community-wide effort to promote healthy home environments, we are currently offering free home inspections to tribal members in Kay County. Our inspections are comprehensive and conducted by fully certified KNED staff. Don't wait to ensure the safety of your household. Schedule your free inspection and let us help you protect your loved ones from the dangers of lead, asbestos, and mold. We are looking forward to hearing from you, sign up today.

Call KNED at (580) 269-1203

Attention All Regalia Crafters

Kaw Nation is compiling a directory of regalia crafters for our Tribal members. To be added, please email Executive Director, Cheri Dunn at execdirector@kawnation.com

Veterans Honored in Ponca City Parade



On Saturday, November 5, the Kaw Nation participated in the 26th Annual Ponca City Veteran's Day parade. Coordinated by Tapóska Brave and former Chair Gahíge Mi Williams, the Kaw Nation float featured a banner with the names of

several Kaw Nation veterans. Also on the float were Kaw Nation Princess Sa[^]síle/Sandra LeClair and Miná[^]ga/Maycie Lee Brandt, who is the Kaá[^]ze Íe Princess and representative for

Team Tajé Sage. Hawatay/Katzy Buffalohead performed a traditional jingle dress dance to honor Native veterans and all veterans who can no longer dance.

Next year's parade is sure to be just as meaningful and we encourage all tribal members to reach out to Storm Brave with information on any additional Kaw Nation veterans to be featured on the banner. Thank you to all of the veterans who have served and continue to serve our country.



Kaw Nation Department Directory



Kanza Clinic & Pharmacy
(580) 362-1039
3151 E. River Rd, Newkirk, Ok 74647
kanzaclinic.com



Rock & Brews Casino
(580) 385-2440
9525 US-177, Braman, OK 74632
rockandbrewscasinobraman.com



Child Care Development
(580) 362-3544
96 Charles Curtis Ln, Newkirk, OK 74647
kawnation.gov/child-care



Environmental Dept.
(580) 269-1203
801 Washunga Dr. Kaw City, OK 74641
kawnation.gov/kned



Child Support Services
(580) 765-9952
4074 N. Hwy. 77 Access Road, Ponca City, 74602
kawnation.gov/child-support



Emergency Management
(580) 362-1232
3251 East River Rd. Newkirk, OK, 74647
kawnation.gov/emergency



Family Trauma Healing Center
(580) 362-1098
106 W. Seventh St, Newkirk, OK, Oklahoma 74647
kawnation.gov/domestic-violence



Kanza Human Development Division
Human Development
(580) 749-5420
400 E. Central Ste. 206, Ponca City, 74601
kawnation.gov/emergency

Social Services
(580) 269-1186

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/social-services

Veterans Affairs
(918) 647-6430

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/veterans-affairs

Wellness Center
(580) 362-1444

3201 East River Road Newkirk, OK 74647
kawnation.gov/wellness-center

Human Resources
(580) 269-2552

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/hr

Tag Office
(580) 269-2552

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/tag-office

Kanza Language
(580) 269-2739

803 Washunga Dr. Kaw City, OK 74641
kawnation.gov/language

Kaw Nation Library
(580) 269-2738

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/library

Dental Dept.
(580) 362-1039

3151 East River Road Newkirk, OK 74647
kanzaclinic.com/dental

Enrollment
(580) 269-2137

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/enrollment

Gaming
(580) 269-1311

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/gaming

Indian Child Welfare
(580) 269-2003

801 Washunga Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/child-welfare

Injury Prevention
(918) 647-6430

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/injury-prevention

Housing Authority
(580) 362-6264

9 Kanza Lane Newkirk, OK 74647
kawnation.gov/housing

Police Department
24 Hour Line (580) 269-2552

698 Grandview Drive Kaw City, OK, 74641
kawnation.gov/police

Business Services
(580) 762-3255

1535 E Hubbard Rd, Ponca City, OK 74604
kawnation.gov/business

2022 Intertribal Fun Day

The 2022 Intertribal Fun Day was a great success, and we at the Kaw Nation were proud to be a part of it. Hosted by the Pawnee Nation, the event brought together tribes from all over the region, including the Oto, Pawnee, Kanza, Tonkawa, and Ioway.

There was no shortage of fun and excitement at the Fun Day, with a variety of different events for attendees to participate in. The Kaw Nation was well-represented, with 23 members competing in a total of 13 events. We were thrilled to come away with some impressive victories, including first place in the sweatshirt relay and first place in the egg toss. We also had a strong showing in the disc golf relay, earning



2nd place, and we scored a total of 104 points for donated items.

One of the highlights of the day was the impressive bingo skills of Cheryl Craig and LaVina Clark, both of whom were able to achieve a bingo during the games.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Pawnee Nation for hosting such a wonderful event, and to the Tonkawa Tribe, Iowa Tribe, and Otoe-Missouria Tribe for their attendance and participation. We were also grateful to the Otoe-Missouria Tribe for their generous donation of meat, which helped to make the lunch service a delicious and memorable part of the day. Looking ahead to next year, we are excited to announce that the Intertribal Fun Day will be hosted by the Iowa Tribe in Perkins.

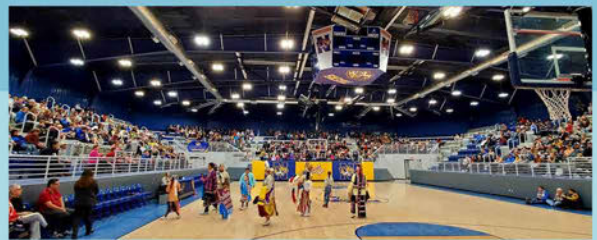


MINI POWWOW AT NEWKIRK HIGH SCHOOL

On November 15th, Kaw Nation performed an educational mini Powwow that took place at Newkirk High School. Coordinated by Kaw Nation, the event was an assembly presentation aimed at informing and educating students about powwow music, dances, and regalia.

Throughout the assembly, students were able to witness variations of powwow drum music and dance styles. Lavina Clark also gave a presentation on the significance of powwow regalia, explaining that it is a form of self-expression worn with pride and responsibility, and that it represents both community traditions and personal tastes.

Several Kaw Tribal members also performed at the event, taking the opportunity to reflect on time-honored traditions while helping to educate future generations of dancers and singers. The Mini Powwow was a truly immersive and educational experience for all in attendance, and we are grateful to our Kaw Nation representatives for coordinating such a meaningful and cultural event.





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P.O. Box 50
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Fax: 580-269-1157

Visit us on our Website:
www.kawnation.com

Editor/Designer:
Lonnie Doyle
ldoyle@kawnation.com

Remodled Giftshop Now Open!

INSIDE



KAW SMOKE SHOP

Ponca City



Come Check it Out!

1535 E. Hubbard Rd. Ponca City, OK
(508) 763-0522