



Kanza News

July 2023



Kaw Mission - Council Grove, Kansas

Letter From the Chair



Hawè,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. July has been hot and wet for us, grass is growing, and our hay fields are about ready to be baled. The Tribal Council approved several improvements to our powwow outdoor arena, new sod, and a sprinkler system was added to help keep it looking nice. The old first aid building will be replaced with a new building. Electric is being ran across the road from the Powwow grounds to the EPA building and the shooting range. This will also allow us to have electricity for our future greenhouses. We continue to work at placing all our land into trust. At the July General Council meeting Daniel Carter was selected for another three years as the Attorney General. We also now have a full Election Board. Those are just a few things that are going on. We are getting close to the August Powwow the 4th, 5th, and 6th. Don't forget at the powwow grounds, the Veteran's meal is on Friday the 4th at Noon, and kid's games are Saturday the 5th at 9:00 am. We should be further along with some of our projects by the next newsletter so we will share pictures of what all we have been doing.

Wiblahan,
Kimberly Jenkins
Kaw Nation Chair

SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM EXPANDED

Kaw Nation is excited to announce the expansion of its School Clothing Program to all qualifying Kaw Nation Tribal Citizens nationwide. As part of our commitment to fostering the growth and progress of our students, we are continuously striving to enhance our support.

Previously, this program was exclusively available to qualifying applicants within local service area. However, recognizing the importance of extending our reach, we have expanded the program's coverage to all qualifying Kaw Nation Tribal Citizens.

The School Clothing Program provides vital assistance to ensure that students have access to appropriate clothing for their educational journey. By expanding this program, we aim to empower and enable our tribal citizens to thrive academically.

We encourage all qualifying Kaw Nation Tribal Citizens to take advantage of this valuable program. Together, we can strengthen our community and create a brighter future for our students. For more information and application details, please visit our kawnation.gov or contact our dedicated team.



JULY 15TH - SEPTEMBER 1ST

Qualified applicants aged eighteen (18) may apply on their own behalf but must provide all necessary documentation including household income. Otherwise, an adult must submit the application on behalf of the Kaw Nation youth aged seventeen (17) or younger. One application must be submitted per Tribal youth. Payments will be processed approximately 30 days after verification of an approved application. Applications must be received by the Tribe on or before September 1st, 2023.

Contact: Kaw Nation Social Services - 580.269.1186 - kawnation.gov/social-services

From Graduation to Inspiration

Celebrating the Intersection of Experience and Fresh Perspective in Tribal Law and Governance

Ken Bellmard,

a distinguished citizen of Kaw Nation and Director of Governmental Affairs, recently delivered the commencement address for graduating students at Northern Oklahoma College on Saturday, May 6, 2023. His exceptional speech owed its success, in part, to the never-failing guidance and support of his remarkable life partner, whose invaluable insights and encouragement played an instrumental role in striking the perfect balance between seriousness, lightheartedness, and subtle humor.

Bellmard's remarkable journey in the legal field celebrates milestones dating back to 1988 when he served as a Delegate to the 34th National Conference of Law Reviews.

Moreover, Bellmard's expertise in negotiation led to significant milestones. He successfully negotiated the first three federally approved Tribal-State of Oklahoma Class III gaming compacts for the Tonkawa and Miami Tribes, as well as the Miami-Modoc Tribal joint venture. Additionally, he played a crucial part in the federal approval of the Comanche-State of Oklahoma Class III Compact during the administration of Governor Henry Bellmon.

Additional achievements include his instrumental role in assisting an Oklahoma Tribe in obtaining HEARTH Act authorization, enabling the tribe to establish a groundbreaking renewable energy project on tribal trust land. Ken Bellmard's accomplishments highlight his deep commitment to championing Indigenous nations and promoting their self-determination along with economic prosperity. His remarkable career continues to shape the landscape of Native American tribal law, and his recent commencement address serves as a beacon of inspiration to future lawyers.

With gratitude for his tireless dedication to benefitting Native American tribes, we look forward to witnessing the positive impact he will undoubtedly continue to make in the years to come.



Reagan McGuire,



a proud Kaw Nation Tribal Citizen and descendant of Chief White Plume, has emerged as a passionate prospect in advocating for the rights and interests of Indigenous communities.

Growing up in Edmond, Reagan was immersed in his Native American heritage and actively engaged in the Edmond Indian Education program during his high school years. After completing his Bachelor's Degree in Biosystems Engineering from Oklahoma State University in 2020, Reagan attended the annual Sovereignty Symposium in Oklahoma City. It was during this transformative event, between his sophomore and junior year at OSU, that he realized his true calling in the legal field.

With unwavering determination, Reagan pursued a Juris Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, driven by the belief that Indigenous legal traditions and values have a vital place in the mainstream legal system. Throughout his time at law school, he actively participated in the Native American Law Student Association (NALSA) and even served as its president. Reagan's leadership within NALSA showed an early commitment to fostering awareness and understanding of the unique legal issues faced by Indigenous communities. Reagan credits the Kaw Nation for supporting him at every step of his academic journey. The tribe provided him with

essential scholarships and housing assistance, enabling him to pursue his education and ultimately achieve his goal of graduating from law school. In his own words, "Without the Kaw Nation, it would not have been possible to succeed in my education."

With his newly acquired Juris Doctorate in hand, Reagan has accepted a position at Devol & Associates in Edmond, a law firm known for its commitment to representing tribal nations in Oklahoma. His decision to join this firm stems from his deep-rooted passion for safeguarding tribal rights and his desire to work closely with tribal nations to advance their sovereign interests while also protecting the rights of individual tribal citizens.

In closing, Reagan extends his heartfelt gratitude to all Kaw Nation citizens reading this newsletter. He expresses his profound honor as a citizen of the Kaw Nation and acknowledges the continuous support he has received from everyone he has encountered along his journey. The steadfast support of his family, coupled with the backing of the Kaw Nation, has empowered him to fulfill his dreams of entering the legal field and effecting meaningful change in the protection of tribal rights. As he humbly concludes, "Aho!"



Kaw Nation Graduates

2023 High School Graduates



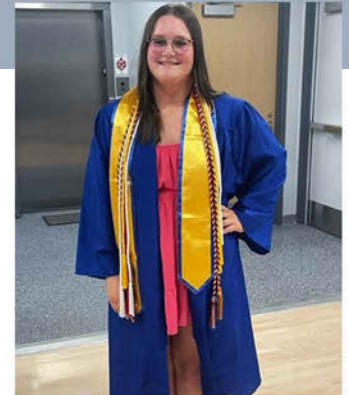
Geronimo Quilimaco Jr.
Ponca City High School



Joshua Lafferty
Blackwell High School



Alisyn Parfait
Summa Cum Laude
The Webb School



Carly Ballagh
Valedictorian
Newkirk High School

2023 University/College Graduates



Taylor Mercer
Cowley County
Community College



Whitney Crawford
Wichita State University
Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering



Reagan McGuire
University of Oklahoma School of Law
Juris Doctorate

Kansas Colleges & Universities Extend In-State Tuition to Kaw Students

In a significant move towards fostering inclusivity and promoting higher education opportunities, Kansas Colleges and Universities have extended the privilege of in-state tuition to aspiring Kaw Nation students. This landmark decision comes as a result of a recent provision enacted by the Kansas State Legislature, aimed at granting residency status for tuition purposes to citizens of tribal nations with historical ties to the State of Kansas. By providing access to in-state tuition rates, Kansas Colleges and Universities are actively eliminating financial barriers that often hinder Native American students' pursuit of higher education. The decision reflects the state's commitment to honoring the historical and cultural significance of tribal nations.

With over 30 tribes falling under the scope of this provision, including renowned nations such as the Osage Nation, Pawnee Nation, Cherokee Nation, and notably, the Kaw Nation, the educational landscape of Kansas is set to become more diverse and enriched. The extension of in-state tuition benefits holds immense promise for Kaw Nation students seeking to pursue their academic aspirations within the state. The implications of this policy change are far-reaching. It not only opens doors to affordable education for tribal students but also lays the groundwork for fostering stronger relationships between the State of Kansas and Kaw Nation as we continue to re-visit and embrace the profound heritage of our original lands.

Kaw Nation JOM Inaugural Banquet: Keynote Speaker and Student Honors

The Kaw Nation Johnson O'Malley (JOM) program marked a significant milestone with their inaugural banquet on May 9, 2023. Held at the Carol Renfro building in Ponca City, the event was a momentous occasion for the department. Adding to the excitement, Christian Wassana, renowned founder of the inspirational movement "I am, I can, I will." and an accomplished actor in the popular

television series Yellowstone, graced the banquet as the keynote speaker. The achievements of JOM students were honored with certificates presented to all participants. Additionally, special gifts were bestowed upon JOM senior students. The evening was filled with pride, and celebration as Kaw Nation continues its commitment to empowering and uplifting its students.



Kaden and Seth Sanchez
JOM Students



Keynote Speaker
Christian Wassana



Kaw Nation Princess, Sandra LeClair
Presenting to Audience



Christian Wassana, Motivational speaker with
Nancy Musgrove, JOM Coordinator

Growing Together: JOM and Kaw Nation Child Care Cultivate Gardens and Knowledge



JOM and the Kaw Nation Child Care united in a meaningful project this year, planting gardens filled with an array of vegetables such as carrots, squash, and zucchini. Alongside the planting process, the children were immersed in captivating garden lessons, allowing them to develop a profound understanding of how these vegetables grow. Through this collaboration, JOM and the Kaw Nation Child Care instilled a love for gardening in the children while equipping them with valuable knowledge about the growth and cultivation of these nutritious plants.



Preserving History: The Significance of the American Legion Building for the Kaw People

As featured on the 47th Annual Kaw Nation Powwow t-shirts, the photo on the right illustrates the significance of the actions that were taken in the American Legion Building for the benefit of the Kaw People.

The American Legion building in Shidler was a place where the meetings of the Kaw people took place and is the birthplace of our modern Kaw Nation. The 1958 Governing Resolution of the Kaw Nation was revived here which ultimately led to the present Kaw Nation Constitution.

Inside the building were those most treasured by the People of the Kaw Nation, our full-bloods. Our Full Bloods originally went to Washington DC and fought to get our Tribe back. The Men pictured in front of the building are the men who followed those Full Bloods and who fought to preserve the sovereignty of the Kaw Nation.

-For more information, read "THE KAW PEOPLE" by Robert Unrau copyright 1975.



THE KAW BUSINESS COMMITTEE elected November 22, 1974, under authority of the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Oklahoma, Honorable Stephen Chandler, presiding. Left to right: Roy Lee Ball, Houston Taylor, Joe Mehojah, Chairman Jesse Mehojah, Alfred Pepper, and Vice-Chairman Elmer Clark. This photograph was made at a dinner and social gathering of the tribe in the American Legion Hall in Shidler, Oklahoma, on April 20, 1975.



Youth Language Powwow Continues To Grow

The 7th Annual Kaw Nation Youth Language Powwow, held on May 20th, 2023, marked a significant milestone in the celebration of Native American culture. Led by a dynamic team of youth organizers, the powwow showcased the vibrant traditions of the Kaw Nation. The event was graced by esteemed individuals who held key roles: Damien Littledeer served as the Head Man, Makiah Brandt as the Head Lady, Jordan Jones as the Head Singer, and Ken Bellmard as the Master of Ceremonies.

The powwow, a cornerstone of the Kaw Nation Language Program, provided a platform for the community's younger generation to actively engage with their heritage. Contest categories were divided into Boys (ages 7-17) and Girls (ages 7-17), fostering healthy competition and camaraderie among participants.

The energy and enthusiasm radiated throughout the event, leaving a lasting impact on all attendees.

With each passing year, the powwow's popularity has soared, attracting a growing number of participants and spectators. The 7th Annual Kaw Nation Youth Language Powwow witnessed the largest turnout to date, emphasizing its significance and resonance within the community. This remarkable achievement speaks volumes about the dedication and commitment of both the organizers and the community at large.

Beyond its cultural significance, the powwow served as a testament to the strength and resilience of the Kaw Nation. It provided a nurturing space for youth to immerse themselves in their ancestral traditions, fostering a deep appreciation for their heritage and language.



Boy's Category

1st Place - Alec Kent
2nd Place - Aiden Jones
3rd Place - Jim Warren



Girl's Category

1st Place - Katzy Buffalohead
2nd Place - Mash-ta Littlecook
3rd Place - Sandra LeClair



Tribal Princesses

Representatives of several tribes unite to grace the occasion.



Wichita War Dancer

Accomplished Native American Performer Shines as Dancer and Esteemed Judge at Youth Language Powwow

Fire Circle Gatherings Ignite Connection & Teachings

In collaboration with The Endangered Language Fund, Kaá'ze Íe has successfully brought together tribal citizens of all ages in a series of fire circle gatherings at the Kaw Nation Powwow Grounds. These gatherings, held on May 12th, June 9th, July 7th, and August 3rd serve as a platform for passing down knowledge to the youth through the tradition of fireside storytelling.

The Kanza people have a rich heritage of preserving their culture and educating new generations through oral history. The fire circle gatherings aim to continue this tradition, providing a space for tribal citizens to share their stories and teachings with the younger members of the community. One notable group present at these gatherings is Tajé Sage, the youth language team. Their participation highlights the importance of revitalizing and preserving the Kanza language, ensuring its continuity for future generations.

Each gathering features a dedicated fire keeper, who uses the same burning log as a symbolic representation of the Kanza ancestors who kept the same fire burning throughout the entire journey from Council Grove to Kaw City and for decades

thereafter.

The stories and teachings shared during the gatherings encompass various aspects of Kanza history and culture. One particularly engaging story was shared by Wes Pappan, a Tribal Citizen and Kaw Nation Council Member. Wes recounted the life of Sonny Holloway, a renowned Kaw Nation Tribal Citizen and WWII Veteran. He painted a vivid picture of Sonny's youth, regaling the audience with tales of his participation in traditional games that were popular during the renowned horse races in Washunga. As Sonny blossomed into adulthood, he embarked on his own racing journey, showcasing his skills in Nebraska circuits during the 1960s.

Ultimately, these fire circle gatherings serve as a priceless platform for fostering intergenerational bonds, facilitating the transfer of knowledge, and joyously commemorating the rich heritage of the Kanza people. Such initiatives play a pivotal role in safeguarding and revitalizing the tribe's cultural traditions and language, ensuring their enduring vibrancy for generations to come.

2023 Washunga Days Powwow



Council Grove, Kansas – The annual Washunga Days festival reached new heights of cultural celebration with the highly anticipated Washunga Days Powwow. Coordinated by the dedicated Kaw Nation Cultural Committee, this year's event captivated attendees from near and far, drawing unprecedented numbers of spectators.

"We mowed twice as much area for spectators as last year and were still overflowing into the field," exclaimed Jaelin Kent, Chair of the Kaw Nation Cultural Committee, describing the remarkable growth and popularity of the Powwow.

Nine Kaw Nation dancers skillfully represented their heritage across multiple contest categories, vying for coveted cash prizes. Each dancer showcased their intricate regalia, reflecting their

style of dance and rich tradition.

The Powwow served as a vibrant gathering, where people of all backgrounds came together to appreciate the cultural significance and splendor of Native American dance, music, and art. The rhythmic beats of the drums and the mesmerizing movements of the dancers created an atmosphere of unity and reverence.

Beyond the competition, the Washunga Days Powwow provided a platform for intergenerational exchange and community connection. Families and friends gathered to witness the dancing performances, share stories, and immerse themselves in the celebration of Kaw Nation.

CONTEST WINNERS



GOLDEN AGE WOMEN

- 1) Jenny Buffalohead
- 2) Roberta Lovejoy
- 3) LaVina Clark



GOLDEN AGE MEN

- 1) Clark Pepper Sr.
- 2) Tim Robinson Sr.
- 3) Robert Allen



SR. WOMEN'S CLOTH & BUCKSKIN

- 1) Cyleyss Stumblingbear
- 2) Cresencia Two-Hatchett
- 3) Bailey Ward



SR. MEN'S FANCY

- 1) Graycloud Lieb
- 2) Knowee Potts
- 3) Jordan Martin



SR. WOMEN'S JINGLE

- 1) Ashley Lamont
- 2) Victoria Lafean



SR. MEN'S TRADITIONAL

- 1) Jerod Buffalohead
- 2) Keesis Potts
- 3) Yunes Robinson



JR. GIRL'S CLOTH

- 1) Sandra LeClair
- 2) Arian Harlan
- 3) Ki Murray



JR. GIRL'S JINGLE

- 1) Katzy Buffalohead



JR. BOY'S STRAIGHT

- 1) Jim Hinga
- 2) Jarre Harlan
- 3) Damien Littledeer



JR. BOY'S TRADITIONAL & GRASS

- 1) Maximus Free
- 2) Jordan Faulk



12613 EAST FERGUSON AVENUE **KAW CITY, OKLAHOMA**

47TH ANNUAL KAW NATION POW W O W

HEAD STAFF

MASTER OF CEREMONIES LESTER EAGLE & LEROY ENLOE | HEAD SINGER JASPER CLARK | HEAD MAN DANCER JEREMY WARD
HEAD LADY DANCER BRITTANY DIAS | HOST GOURD GROUP TBA | ARENA DIRECTOR ROBERT SPOTTED BEAR
WATER BOYS JAKE SPOTTED BEAR, SAM SPOTTED BEAR, ROMAN WARD
OUTGOING PRINCESS SANDRA LECLAIR | INCOMING PRINCESS MIAH PARKER

ALL SPECIALS ARE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AFTERNOON ONLY
CONTACT MAGGI SMITH (580) 491-2555 OR CANDY CLARK (580) 304-4943 TO SCHEDULE

AUGUST 4TH- 6TH, 2023

FOOD CONCESSIONS, ARTS AND CRAFTS SPACE AVAILABLE
CONTACT MAGGI SMITH (580) 491-2555 OR CANDY CLARK (580) 304-4943

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

YOUTH ACTIVITIES 9AM
GOURD DANCE 2PM
SPECIALS
SUPPER 5PM
REGISTRATION 6-7:30PM
FLAG CEREMONY 7PM
GRAND ENTRY 7:30 PM
WOMEN'S DIVISION CONTESTS

SUNDAY

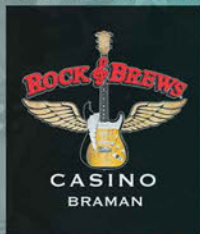
GOURD DANCE 2PM
SPECIALS
BREAK 5PM
FLAG CEREMONY 7PM
GRAND ENTRY 7:30 PM
MEN'S DIVISION CONTESTS

CONTEST CATEGORIES

MEN AND WOMEN GOLDEN AGE 55 AND OLDER | SR MEN AGES 19-54: STRAIGHT, TRADITIONAL, GRASS AND FANCY
SR 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

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 DRESSED IN FULL REGALIA TO RECEIVE PRIZE MONEY

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR



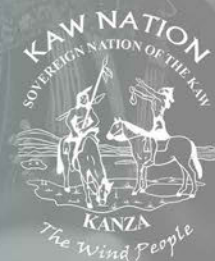
VETERAN'S MEAL

AUGUST 4TH 12PM
POW W O W GROUNDS
12613 E. FERGUSON, KAW CITY

MOURNER'S MEAL

JULY 30TH 10AM
W. A. MEHOJAH, SR. BUILDING
698 GRANDVIEW, KAW CITY

NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ALLOWED ON GROUNDS
KAW NATION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFTS, ACCIDENTS, OR INJURIES.
ALL PERSONS ON SITE ARE SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF THE KAW NATION.



Reclaiming Heritage, Celebrating Sovereignty

A Look Into Kaw Nation's Annual Homecoming Journey

Kaw Nation's annual presentation at the historic Kaw Mission in Council Grove, Kansas, has become a cherished tradition for the tribe. This significant event, held every June, brings together Kaw Nation leaders, representatives, and citizens to pay homage to their rich heritage and celebrate tribal sovereignty through cultural presentations, music, and dance. This year, the gathering held even greater significance as it marked the 150th anniversary of Kaw Nation's removal from their Kansas lands.

The Kaw Mission, located at 500 N. Mission Street, holds a special place in the tribe's history. From 1851 to 1854, it served as a home, school, and church for 30 Kaw boys. Today, it is a registered historic site and administered by the Kansas Historical Society as the Kaw Mission State Historic Site.

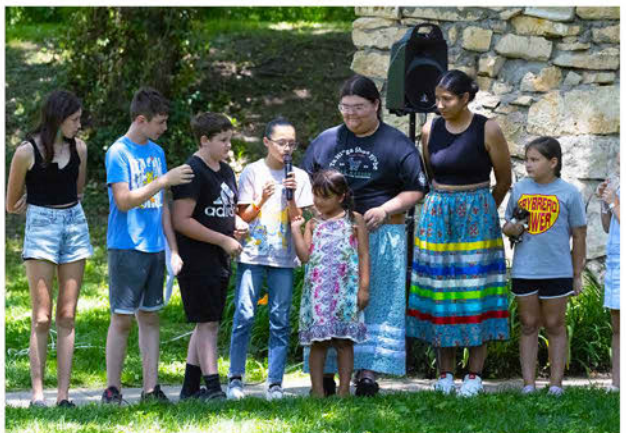
For many years, the Kaw Nation's Washunga Day's Powwow took place at the Kaw Mission until a dedicated arbor was built at The Allegawaho Heritage Memorial Park in 2015. However, the tribe has continued to return to the mission annually to honor its significance and embrace their ancestral traditions.

At this year's event, Council member Jim Pepper Henry delivered a captivating presentation on the 150th anniversary of the Kaw Nation's removal from their Kansas lands. His speech also highlighted the symbolic and historic importance of the regalia worn and displayed by Ken Bellmard, emphasizing the importance of regalia in preserving the tribe's identity.

Adding to the vibrancy of the celebration, the Kaw Nation's youth language team, led by Language Director Storm Brave, took the stage with skits and performances entirely in the Native Kaw Language. The young participants passionately reenacted traditional stories and speeches, while also presenting original pieces they had written themselves. Their contributions exemplified the tribe's commitment to revitalizing and preserving the Kaw language for future generations.

The annual presentation at Kaw Mission serves as a powerful testament to the Kaw Nation's resilience, pride, and determination to uphold their culture. It is a time when the community gathers to honor their past, celebrate their present, and envision a strong future rooted in their ancestral traditions.

This event is a transformative experience for all involved. It fosters a deep sense of unity, not only within Kaw Nation but also within the wider community that gathers to witness and partake in this celebration. It serves as a bridge between the past and the present, connecting generations and enabling a shared understanding of the enduring values and customs that define the Kaw people. Looking ahead, this yearly observance at Kaw Mission will continue to inspire and ignite a sense of belonging among Kaw Citizens and beyond. It will serve as a guiding light, reminding future generations of the sacrifices, triumphs, and indomitable spirit of their ancestors. The legacy of this cherished tradition will endure, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of those who experience it.



Leading the Way in Kaw Nation's IT Department

In this quarter's employee spotlight, we shine a light on Jake Dreiling, the accomplished IT Director at Kaw Nation. With a passion for technology and a deep connection to his Native American roots, Jake has been instrumental in driving the technological advancements within the Kaw Nation community.

Born in Emporia, Kansas, Jake spent his formative years in Carl Junction, Missouri, where he attended high school. It was during this time that he developed a keen interest in computers and technology, paving the way for his future career.

After living on his Muscogee (Creek) Nation allotment from 2018 to 2022, Jake made his way to Ponca City, Oklahoma, and joined an IT agency. In November 2022, he proudly assumed the role of IT Director for Kaw Nation, bringing his expertise and innovative mindset to the organization.

Beyond the world of technology, Jake has a diverse range of interests. He finds solace in the great outdoors and enjoys hunting, fishing, and golfing during his leisure time. These hobbies serve as a source of relaxation and inspiration, allowing him to recharge and bring fresh perspectives to his work.

Jake Dreiling's remarkable journey from his humble beginnings to becoming the IT Director at Kaw Nation exemplify profound commitment to both his profession and his Native American descent.



New Kaw Nation Hires

- Richard Murr (5/1/23) CHR
- Courtney Atkins (5/1/23) Multi-Purpose Aid
- Jules Thompson (5/8/23) Temp. Pharmacy Clerk
- Samantha Smith (5/8/2023) Kaw Language Teacher Assistant
- Illyce Elston (5/9/2023) ETS Coordinator (Elder Care)
- Harli Crabtree (5/15/2023) JOM Resource Advisor
- Kayden Garrison (5/17/2023) Wellness Clerk
- Darlene Anderson (5/30/2023) PRC/Patient Benefits Coordinator
- Leah Carruba (5/30/2023) Women's Health LPN
- Emily Evanoff (6/1/2023) Wellness Clerk
- Vanessa Ramirez (6/5/2023) KHDD Child Care Manager
- Dawn Nicholas (6/7/2023) Court Clerk
- Nicole Presley (6/12/2023) Janitor
- Carlee Miller (6/12/2023) Insurance Processor
- Jakarra Wilson (6/16/2023) Daycare Teacher
- Jayla Pappan (6/21/2023) JOM Specialist
- Kyleigh Warren (6/21/2023) JOM Specialist
- Thomas Pappan III (6/26/2023) Maintenance Worker
- Nicole Byrd (6/28/2023) Daycare Cook Assistant/Multi-Purpose Aid
- Cady Smith (7/3/2023) JOM Specialist
- Brittany Fitzpatrick (7/10/2023) Account-Finance Associate
- Bridget Howe (7/10/2023) KHDD Receptionist
- Kyle Colclasure (7/17/2023) Police Officer
- Veronica Montanez (7/17/2023) Daycare Teacher

2023 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY



Employee Appreciation Day at Kaw Nation was a resounding success, filled with festivities, great food, and gratitude. The event served as a platform to honor and recognize the dedication and loyalty of long-serving employees. Special recognition plaques and prestigious Pendleton blankets were presented to those who have been with Kaw Nation for 15+ years. These tokens of appreciation symbolize the value and admiration that Kaw Nation holds for its committed workforce. By fostering an environment where employees feel valued and appreciated, Kaw Nation continues to inspire loyalty, dedication, and a strong sense of belonging amongst our cherished team. To learn more about working at Kaw Nation, visit KawNation.gov/careers.



- Debbie Williams - 15 years
- Jacque Bannister - 15 years
- Sue Whatley - 15 years
- Tiffany Briley - 16 years
- Lana Burke - 17 years
- Roger Sober - 18 years
- Paula McCann - 18 years
- Angela Oldfield - 19 years
- James Smith - 20 years
- Lea Blenz - 21 years
- Cheryl Craig - 24 years
- Lisa Allton - 24 years
- Terri Humble - 26 years
- Kevin Stephens - 27 years
- Dona Ball - 29 years
- Karen Howe - 31 years
- Scott Rennie - 33 years
- LaDoma Bryan - 34 years

LOCAL AUTHOR UNLEASHES KAIJU AT KAW LAKE

On May 19th, Kaw Nation Library & Learning Center hosted a remarkable book-signing event that delighted book enthusiasts and fans of local fiction. Despite the heavy rain, fans braved the weather to meet renowned author Ethan Richards and get their copies of his latest book signed.

Ethan Richards, an Army National Guard infantryman, has gained recognition for his unique storytelling and imaginative narratives. His latest work, "Kaw Lake The Kay County Kaiju Encounter," strikes a personal chord with the community as it delves into the wonders and mysteries surrounding the Kaw Lake area.

The book signing event became an opportunity for fans to engage with the talented author and gain insights into his creative process. Richards graciously interacted with his readers, discussing his inspiration behind the story and sharing anecdotes from his writing journey.

The event also highlighted Ethan Richards' previous literary achievements, including "The Dark Lord of Oklahoma: An Unconventional Story" and its sequel, "The Dark Elf of Oklahoma - An Unconventional Sequel." These titles have established Richards as a master of blending fantasy elements with the rich cultural tapestry of Northern Oklahoma.

As readers left the event, clutching their signed copies of Ethan Richards' latest novel, they carried with them a sense of pride in their local talent and a newfound excitement for the power of storytelling.



A WALK FOR DIABETES



Kaw Nation in accordance with Kanza Clinic organized a remarkable event, "A Walk for Diabetes," which took place at the Newkirk High School Track on June 2nd. On this day, the community came together to raise awareness about diabetes and promote a healthy lifestyle. The event, open to both the community and Kanza Clinic patients, emphasized the importance of physical activity in managing diabetes.

Participants eagerly took on the challenge of walking two laps around the track, demonstrating their commitment to personal wellness and supporting others in the process. To acknowledge their dedication, participants were rewarded with commemorative shirts and fitness smart bands, encouraging them to continue their fitness journey beyond the event.

"A Walk for Diabetes" not only promoted physical activity but also provided a platform for education and support. Kanza Clinic professionals were present to offer valuable information about diabetes prevention, management, and the available resources within the community. This event served as a reminder that a strong support system plays a crucial role in fighting against diabetes and ensuring the well-being of individuals and families.



In Loving Memory

OF OUR KAW CITIZENS

Carla Kay Arrington
D.O.D - 04/03/2023

Randy Glenn Weathers
D.O.D - 04/24/2023

Nate Thomas Collins
D.O.D - 04/27/2023

Herbert George Farnsworth Jr.
D.O.D - 04/30/2023

Catherine Ann Croft
D.O.D - 06/06/2023





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**Visit us on our Website:
www.kawnation.gov**

**Editor/Designer:
Lonnie Doyle
communications@kawnation.gov**



FREE CONCERT | AUGUST 19TH

18+ to Enter | Bring your own chair | Gates open at 6pm | Show starts at 8pm

Just south of the OK-KS border on I-35 at Exit 231. No coolers or backpacks allowed.