



Kiowa Tribe District 7 Newsletter

October of 2023

Greetings from the District 7 Legislator

Dear Kiowa District 7 Citizens,

I am honored to greet you all through this newsletter as your District Legislator. As we continue to navigate these unprecedented times, I hope this message finds you and your loved ones well. We had an excellent ceremony in October at Indian City for our Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society. During the ceremony I thought about and prayed for all our people, especially those citizens who could not be present for our dance.

This newsletter serves as a platform to keep you informed about current issues and updates within our district. It is also an opportunity for us to celebrate the accomplishments and milestones of our fellow Kiowa citizens.

I encourage you all to actively participate in our community and stay engaged with the latest developments. Your voices matter, and I am here to listen and support you in any way that I can.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your District Legislator. Let us continue to work together towards a brighter future for our Kiowa Tribe District 7. Stay safe and well!

Thoughts from an Elder

Contemporary Kiowa Evolvment/Development

This is the first segment of an opinion article on today's Kiowa tribal evolvment and development activities in this newsletter for D7 readers. Upcoming newsletter editions will include evolvment/development segments on the topic ranging from philosophy to practice in relation to tribal leadership from the perspective of a District 7 tribal member in this regard. I encourage readers to respond to the article by submitting comments/questions to newsletter staff for possible publication.

Communication is a two-way process that requires equal opportunity to cuss and discuss situations. The following comments represent my communication on the current and future dynamics of serving Kiowa tribal members to the elected Kiowa officials. Hopefully, readers will hear from these officials regarding the topics presented and encourage the building of a solid, continuous research foundation in leading and building the tribe and work together to achieve the best of life for tribal members.

I would like to present my perspectives using an open-ended, self-interview format for the sake of space and time. Hopefully, this format will set the stage for further surveying (research programming) of tribal members/communities for the achievement of a positive/productive two-way communication process as mentioned.

Question to be addressed in this interview:

What are four critical areas of address the Kiowa Tribe should focus on in the years to come?

My Response (not in order of importance):

Physical and Mental Health of the Tribe- If you don't live around a IHS hospital or tribal clinic you are at the mercy of the non-Indian, insurance only, health assistance. This could lead to an even more critical, personal health crisis, but also an economic crisis in terms of paying for related health services. Our elderly tribal members are subject to transportation issues (unable to drive, distance to health assistance, physical inhibition, financial means, etc.) and communication assistance, especially in the rural regions of the tribal service area. I believe mental health illness among our tribal elders is greater than reported. Our culture did not/does not encourage discussing or addressing mental health situations among families as a matter of respect. The condition is in need of address, enhancement of services, and an updating of its identity from within the culture of the tribal people. It seems like the likely-hood of mental health issues being addressed will happen only when they reach a degree of severity calling for extreme treatment. Tribal government can do more in this area but we, as citizens, must give them input and directions. District 7 elders need more attention when it comes to elderly service from the tribal government and other local and state agencies. What can the tribe do to address District 7 elderly tribal members? We need more prevention/intervention action and information programs throughout our service area, inclusive of District 7 members.

Education- Our children spend more time in school setting (school culture) than the home setting. Parents spend more time at work than at home, especially when their children are at home (home culture). For the sake of the children our tribe needs to help bridge these two cultures so they don't clash. I believe the public school needs help in meeting our student's holistic development. The tribe could be accountable to our children's educational needs by getting actively engaged with the public school as a partner in their education, public and private. The tribe has added a new department referred to as the Tribal Education Agency (sounds like old bureau wording). I want to know what the purpose and functions of this new department are and how it will help in the education of our tribal students. Our tribal communities need support with the cognitive and affective development of our children in attaining the highest quality of relevant education possible. This is extremely difficult for various reasons all related to the politics of culture (home culture versus school culture). I would like to see the tribe develop a permanent, dynamic, curriculum it could implement at the tribal

headquarters and the communities for students and parents of/in the service area. The curriculum needs to have goals, objectives and activities focused on tribal identity (history, culture, language, ceremony, literature, government, politics, etc.), family values, self-esteem, physical, mental, and spiritual health. There also needs to be a practical component of applying content to real life conditions and situations in these transitional years and communities.

Quickly, let me suggest some specific type of preliminary, preparatory activities the tribe could research and develop in preparation for a tribal education agency plan related to the aforementioned discussion.

- Kiowa Tribal Education Summit for volunteer educators, professional educators, tribal officials, parents, and interested people.

- Tribal Educational Needs Assessment throughout the 7 districts, realizing the diversity of tribal citizen locations.

- Kiowa Pre-Tribal Education Agency Plan proposals to fund agency personnel and projected activities for the next 5 years.

- Research Plan to guide and account proposed goals, objectives, activities of the agency (more on this curriculum concept in future editions of the D7 newsletter).

Tribal Sovereignty- a major concept in teaching Native Studies throughout the past 40 years of my career was tribal sovereignty and the context of its presence. Before teaching classes in Native Studies I examined tribal histories and understood that the essence of tribes being tribes rested in the concept of sovereignty. Without sovereignty we would no longer have that special political relationship with the federal government, which is the grounding to our culture. Some readers may disagree with the sequence of this evolution (let me hear from you) as tribes but it is hard to argue the term sovereignty as applied to tribal governments, today especially. All tribal members need to understand the definition and dynamics of sovereignty otherwise we will lose the positioning it provides for tribes with federal, state, and local governments. An example of the accuracy of this statement may be experienced in reading about the State of Oklahoma governor (representative of Oklahoma citizens) refusing to respect tribal sovereignty and encouraging the elimination of it among tribes of Oklahoma. Tribes are no longer a part of the “zero sum politics” syndrome and must continue to be actively engaged with local, state and national politics for the well-being of current and future tribal members, or become extinct, except in imagery. Our tribal leaders need to address this situation and offer recommendations/ideas on strategies for the Kiowa Tribe specifically. My suggestion? Be sure to read the next edition of the D7 newsletter.

Technology- Simply stated, the tribe must address the need for awareness, practice, and investing in technology throughout the tribal government/governance and the citizens if we are to sustain, attain, retain, obtain, and maintain the Kiowa Tribe. A goal should be to have technology present in every Kiowa home. Every Kiowa student must have knowledge, understanding, and fulfillment in basic technological thrusts (home computer, operation, manipulation, software, internet, communication platforms, etc.) as soon as possible. Their parents, and even their grandparents, must work to achieve at least the basics of computer usage in communication, data analysis, programming, and organization and the relevant software. It is not enough to

think and say “well they have cell phones that can do all the mentioned”, or televisions with various technological applications, in their homes. The tribal government must do more to encourage and make available technology for the Kiowa home culture.

I started this segment with the term communication and I will conclude this segment with thoughts on communication. Our tribal government is only as strong as the number of tribal members that participate. Our currently elected tribal representatives promised us transparency, better and stronger communication, as a means to their accountability and citizen engagement. I encourage these tribal representatives to live up to their promise and provide more production in the areas of transparency and communication. Keep us informed by expanding the communication network to more than an outdated newsletter, sporadic media broadcasts (radio), and a social network app (Facebook) that is abused and misused by too many individuals. Invest more time and funding effort toward enhancing the network, that way more tribal citizens can get involved. Maybe the tribe can organize an inter-tribal news network partnership where certain southwest tribes share in transmissions, equipment, personnel, and funding across southwest Oklahoma?

Legislative Update



Latest Legislature News

Introduction

As we approach the end of the 2nd quarter of our tribal fiscal, it's essential to reflect on the tribal landscape and legislative updates that have affected our District 7 community. The past year has been full of challenges and changes, both at a tribal and national level. In this update, we will discuss key issues impacting the Kiowa Tribe and District 7.

Legislative Updates

The Kiowa Tribe Legislature has actively advocated for our citizen's rights and prepared modifications for our tribal budget. This month's notable accomplishment was the passage of the Budget Transparency Act of 2023, which requires the Executive Branch to develop, discuss, and distribute a total line-item comprehensive budget. Several District 7 citizens have complained about the budget and lack of transparency. We want to change that conversation and distribute more in-depth information to citizens so the Kiowa people can make a more informed decision.

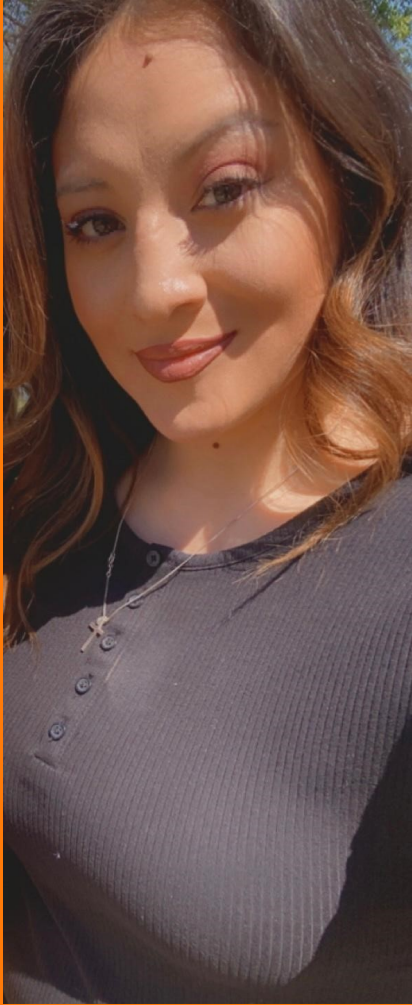
Here is a list of legislation being discussed and read into the record:

- Kiowa Tribe Executive Branch Four (4) Division Structure and Organizational Chart Act of 2023. Sponsor
- Establishment for Recognition of Judicial Proceedings in Foreign Courts – Full Faith and Credit Act of 2023.
- First Annual Budget Modification Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
- Kiowa Gaming Commission Ordinance Act of 2023.
- Kiowa Tribe Territory Expansion Act of 2023.
- First Amendment Nominations and Appointments Act of 2017
- Leasing Code of the Kiowa Tribe –Hearth Act of 2023
- First Amendment to the Employee Benefit Provider Selection Act of 2023

For more information on these bills, please visit the Kiowa Legislative Website at <https://www.kiowatribe.org/legislative>.

Meet Kyanna Wishon, District 7's New Intern

My name is Kyanna Wishon, I am a citizen of the Kiowa Tribe attending The University of Oklahoma. My major area of study is Psychology with a minor in Sociology. In Spring, I will be obtaining my B.A degree and will be progressing forward towards obtaining a M.A degree in social work within tribal relations. I am a 2024 NAS Mellow Impact Fellow undergraduate this year, which specifically focuses on Indigenous Leadership and professionalization



enhancement. My future goals include working among tribal relations by assisting communities within the behavioral health realm. Additionally, I will strive towards becoming a mentor for individuals who have limited resources, that aligns with college application processes, resume development, and to assist those in applying for scholarships/grants that apply to their academic plans. I am motivated to engage among various tribal groups as a role model and to gain more knowledge of my own cultural identity while commuting with others. I hope to pursue community outreach projects and develop skills that will give me a solid leadership role, while helping others.

Parents are Devona Roulain and Father Teddy L Wishon Jr. Kyanna is the Granddaughter of Evangeline Kaulaity (Kiowa) and Howard Roulain Jr (Comanche). Great-Grandmother Christine (Pahdongkei) TwoHatchet Kaulaity & Great-Grandfather, Rickey Kaulaity. Great-Grandparents James and Lena (Tainpeah) Two Hatchet. Joshua Kaulaity & Eugenia (Ianonen) Hummingbird Mausape. Great-Grandparents Howard Roulain & Ruth (Trevino) Roulain (Comanche).

Upcoming Events

KIOWA TRIBE DISTRICT 7

TRIBAL ID CARD DAY



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH 2023

123 24TH AVE NW, NORMAN, OK 73069
10 AM - 2 PM CST
PHONE NUMBER: (405) 857-8408



RE-OPENING



[GÁUI'HÒÑÀUN MUSEUM

WWW.KIOWATRIBE.ORG



FOR MORE INFORMATION 580-654-6366

AND GIFT SHOP

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023

10:00AM

KIOWA COMPLEX
100 N KIOWA WAY
CARNEGIE, OK 73015





Vendor Registration



The Dallas Police Department

honors the service of
Officer Vernon R. Ahtone

and our

Indigenous/American Indian Officers



Wednesday, November 8, 2023

10:00 am

Reception immediately following

Experience the culture of our Indigenous communities!



Dallas Police Department
1400 Botham Jean Blvd., Dallas
2nd Floor Media Conference Room





Over 70% of American Indians and Alaskan Natives live in urban areas. Yet, studies of Native elders' brain health have primarily focused on rural and reservation settings. Through brain scans and assessment of thinking and memory, the URBANE research study seeks to learn more about urban Native elders' brain health and examine how vascular brain injury, like strokes, may contribute to increased risk of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias.

★ Eligibility

- American Indian or Alaskan Natives
- Ages 55 and older
- Live in or commute to a large city or town (non-reservation)



SCAN ME

★ Incentives

- Volunteers will receive up to \$300 for completing blood and urine labs, interview, clinical exams, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scans, wearing a wrist sleep and physical activity monitor and keeping a sleep journal for 10 days.
- Anyone can earn a \$50 referral incentive per eligible person who completes the study.

★ Visit Durations & Locations

- Visit 1: Interview, Cognitive, & Physical Exams (3-4 hours) at the URBANE office (Center for American Indian Research)
- Visit 2: MRI (1 hour) at the OU Health MRI facility

Participate in the URBANE study by contacting us at:

(405) 271-3090 EXT 46767

Laura-L-Smitheouhsc.edu

www.urbanestudy.com



WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY



HUDSON
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute on Aging in partnership with Washington State University

URBAN Study
(405) 271-3090 EXT 46767
laura-l-smitheouhsc.edu
www.urbanestudy.com

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Volunteer with FAM

Want to help support our mission? First Americans Museum is seeking volunteers who are able to commit to ongoing service to the museum. We hope to accommodate groups that wish to volunteer together or students seeking volunteer hours in the future.

FAM offers two types of volunteer opportunities: general volunteers and docents.

General volunteers work on an as-needed basis and assist with greeting visitors, staffing coat check and

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

New Tulsa Language Class



**ZOOM AND REGISTRATION INFO CAN BE FOUND:
HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/KIOWAD7
IN PERSON: 15 E 16TH ST TULSA, OK 74119
EMAIL: DISTRICT7LEGISLATURE@KIOWATRIBE.ORG
PHONE: 405-857-8408**

Our Upcoming Tulsa language class is still on its way. To Sign up please visit:
[here](#)

D7 Links



@kiowaD7

Kiowa Tribe District 7

district7legislature@kiowatribe.org

[Website](#)



[Sign Up for Our Newsletter](#)



[Schedule a Meeting with Legislator Warren Queton](#)

[YouTube Videos](#)

[September Zoom Meeting \(PIN 381420\)](#)

Please bookmark and save <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7> this page will be updated with easy-to-navigate links.

Kiowa District 7 Legislative Office | 123 24th AVE NW, Norman, OK 73069 405-857-8408

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