



# SMOKE SIGNALS

-- THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ABSENTEE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF TEXAS --

Volume: 78

absenteeseminoletribe.org

July 2024

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

Principal Chief: Lee R. Young

Asst. Chief: Richard L. Watson

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mary S. Young, Secretary

Clarence G. Ward, Treasurer

Marsha Jo Butler

Dorothy L. Ward

Ebonie M. Walker

**PRINCIPAL CHIEF'S MESSAGE:** Hensci, Seminoles  
On June 15, 2024 we conducted our election of Tribal Council members. The ballot counting was administered by: Yolanda Sanchez Williams and Linda Daniels Goodloe.

The results of the election were:

Lee R. Young, Principal Chief – 33 votes  
Richard L. Watson, Assistant Chief – 34 votes  
Marsha Jo Butler – 32 votes  
Clarence G. Ward – 30 votes  
Mary S. Young – 27 votes  
Dorothy L. Ward – 27 votes  
Ebonie M. Walker – 25 votes

Congratulations to the elected Tribal Council

On July 20, 2024 a Tribal Council meeting will be held on Zoom. The elected Tribal Council will take the “Oath of Office” at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend the Zoom meeting.

Tribal Council Zoom meeting

July 20, 2024

Time: Jul 20, 2024 10:00 AM Central Time

How to Join Zoom Meeting – follow the Link below – or Log into Zoom and enter The meeting ID and Passcode.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9179107383?pwd=jMBab3NzLJGKTSMTauLaSZn5szDXbt.1&omn=81407976013>

Meeting ID: 917 910 7383

Passcode: 237651

## August 16, 17, 2024 – Wewoka, OK

An Oklahoma highway sign commemorating John Horse will be erected at Wewoka, OK. A reception will be held at the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Museum. A flyer describing this historic event will be attached to the newsletter.

### July Birthdays

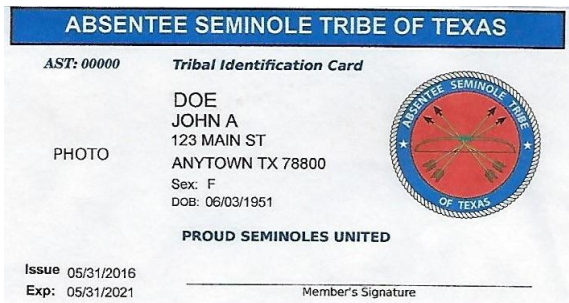
Toni Ann Young - July 7  
Lesley W. Cunningham - July 10  
Shayla M. Williams - July 12  
Ryan A. Dittmer - July 12  
Vernon Hicks - July 16  
Mary Nellie Payne – July 17  
Brandon D. Stocker - July 21

Khendrick E. Turner - July 22  
Dora B. Lara – July 29  
Joy Marie Hernandez – July 29  
Shane R. Williams – July 30



Associate Member  
Joel D. Johnson – July 21

**TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS:** Tribal Identification Cards are available for \$25, valid for 5 years. The Tribal Identification Cards, are an official means to identify tribal members. Tribal Identification Cards do not replace any official government issued identification, they provide a means for members to proudly display their tribal enrollment.



### TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARD RENEWAL

Tribal Identification Cards are beginning to expire – we will mail expiration notices. Everyone encouraged to check the expiration date on their Tribal Identification Cards. Renewal only requires submission of payment of \$25, payable to Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas.

## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

If you change residence, get a new telephone number, new email address, or any other changes in contact information. Forward your new information to our office.

## **FACEBOOK**

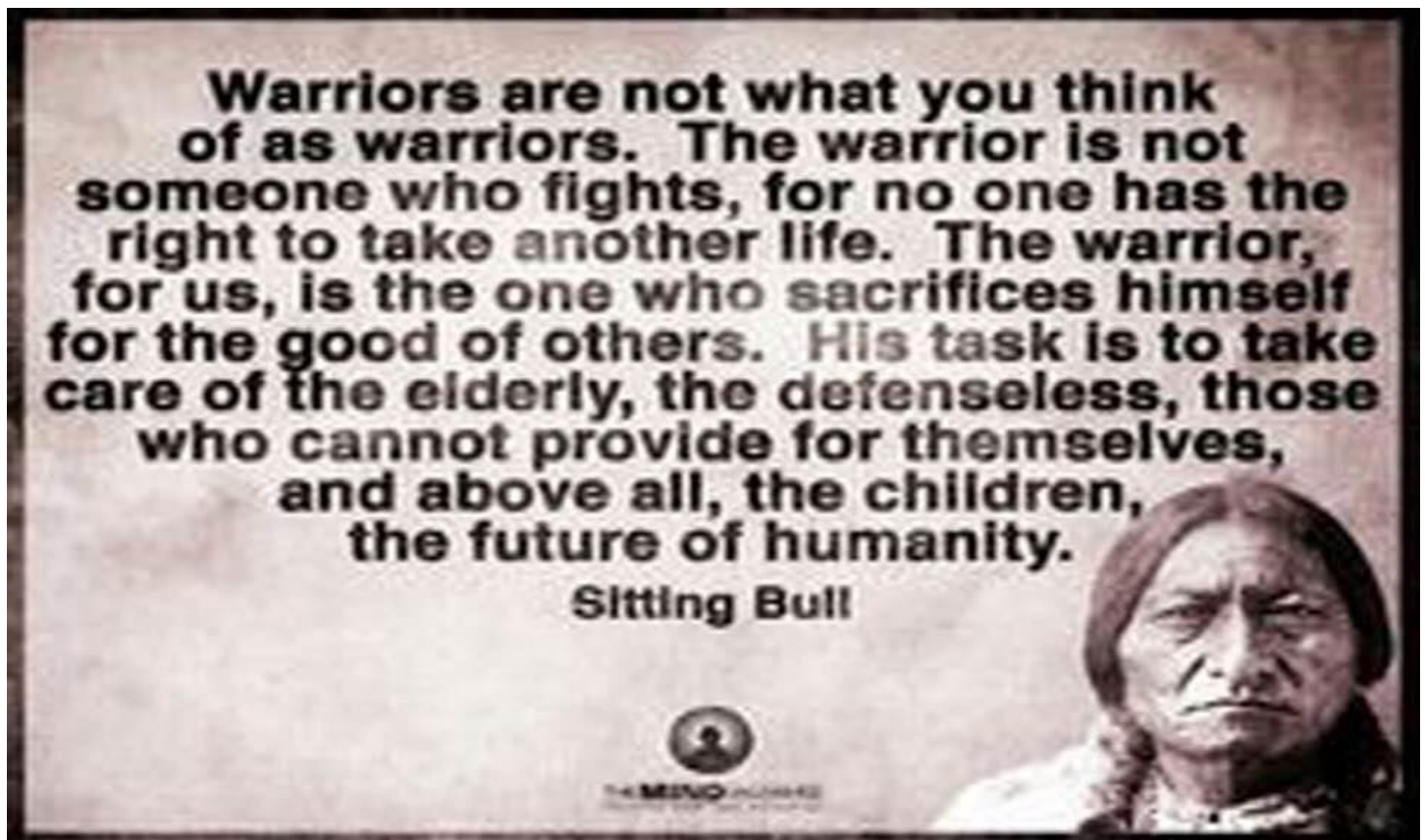
<https://www.facebook.com/AbsenteeSeminoleTribeTexas/>

**FB users visit and “Like” our FB page**

Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas  
P. O. Box 1932  
McKinney, TX 75070-8162

E-Mail - [info@AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org](mailto:info@AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org)

Website: <https://AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org>



Seminole  
*Warrior*  
John  
Horse



**16-17  
AUGUST  
2024**

SEMINOLE  
WARRIOR  
JOHN HORSE

WEWOKA

*Founder's Day  
Celebration*

**FRIDAY  
11 AM -  
230 PM**

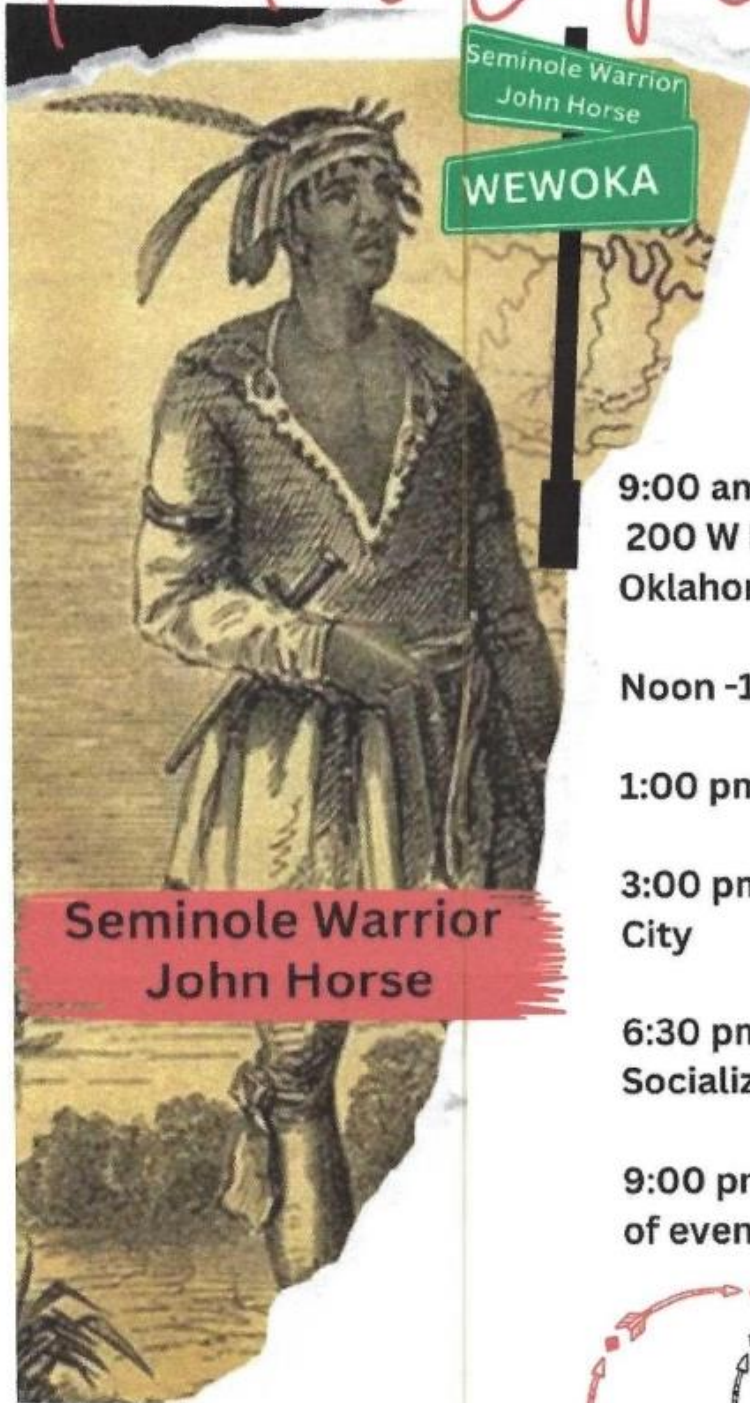
**SEMINOLE NATION  
MUSEUM**

**524 S WEWOKA AVE  
WEWOKA, OK 74884**



**DENYS VASQUEZ-WELCH  
THE WANNAH & JOHN HORSE SEMINOLE DESCENDANTS ALLIANCE, INC**

# Founder's Day Celebration



**Seminole Warrior  
John Horse**

**Saturday  
August 17  
2024**

**9:00 am Depart to Fort Gibson  
200 W Poplar Street Fort Gibson,  
Oklahoma 74434**

**Noon -1:00 pm Lunch**

**1:00 pm – 2:30 Tour of Fort Gibson**

**3:00 pm Depart back to Oklahoma  
City**

**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm Dinner and  
Socializing**

**9:00 pm Closing Celebration, end  
of event**



**Denys Vasquez-Welch**

**Presented by:  
The Wannah & John Horse Seminole  
Descendants Alliance, Inc  
Website: [www.wjhsda.org](http://www.wjhsda.org)  
Email: [denysvw@wjhsda.org](mailto:denysvw@wjhsda.org)**

# FOUNDER'S DAY HONORING

Travel Photography Inspiration for the Haircare  
Industry line introduced by Oliva Wilson in partnership  
with Pin & Co.

SEMINOLE WARRIOR  
JOHN HORSE

WEWOKA



Denys Vasquez-Welch

**AUGUST  
16-17  
2024**

"... The Government pledged itself at that time to pay us for all the losses... A home for the sake of our children, that they may learn something and get schooling, where we can believe in God and Love each other "

**Seminole Warrior Chief John Horse**

**THE WANNAH & JOHN HORSE SEMINOLE DESCENDANTS ALLIANCE INC**

# FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION Seminole Warrior John Horse

The Wannah and John Horse Seminole Descendants Alliance, Inc.  
7901 4th Street N. STE 300  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
Website: [www.wjhsda.org](http://www.wjhsda.org)  
Office: 813.530.8091  
15 June 2024

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to extend a warm invitation to you and your esteemed organization/community to join us for a special Founder's Day Celebration in honor of Seminole Warrior John Horse, the visionary behind the establishment of Wewoka, Oklahoma.

As you may know, Seminole Warrior John Horse played a pivotal role in shaping the history and identity of the city of Wewoka. Through his dedication, foresight, and tremendous sacrifice, Wewoka has evolved into the vibrant and prosperous community that we cherish today.

The Founder's Day Celebration will take place at Seminole Nation Museum located 524 S. Wewoka Ave Wewoka, Oklahoma on 16 August 2024 at 11:00 am and we have planned a Two-Day 16-17 August 2024 event with an array of engaging activities and events to commemorate Chief John Horse's legacy. Highlights of the Celebration include the unveiling of a commemorative highway road sign, historical exhibits, guest speakers, and live musical performances.

We believe that your participation in this meaningful event would greatly enrich the celebration and underscore the spirit of community and unity that defines Wewoka. Your presence would also honor the enduring legacy of Chief John Horse and recognize the collective efforts that have contributed to the growth and prosperity of the Seminole People.

Please find enclosed a detailed agenda for the Founder's Day Celebration. We kindly request that you RSVP by 9 August 2024 to confirm your attendance and provide us with the number of guests accompanying you.

Thank you for considering our invitation, and we look forward to the pleasure of your company at the Seminole Warrior John Horse Founder's Day Celebration. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 813.530.8091 or [denysvw@wjhsda.org](mailto:denysvw@wjhsda.org).

With warm regards,  
Denys Vasquez-Welch  
Chief Executive Officer & Founder



Denys Vasquez-Welch

