



SMOKE SIGNALS

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

Volume: 79

absenteeseminoletribe.org

August 2024

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Principal Chief: Lee R. Young

Asst. Chief: Richard L. Watson

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mary S. Young

Clarence G. Ward, Treasurer

Marsha Jo Butler

Dorothy L. Ward

Ebonie S. Mobley, Secretary

PRINCIPAL CHIEF’S MESSAGE: Hensci, Seminoles We are hoping everyone is managing to cope with the Summer’s hot weather, and the recent storms many have experienced. We eagerly are preparing for our annual Seminole Celebration. This year’s event will take place on September 21. We will be gathering at the Fort Clark Springs Service Club. We will have a very knowledgeable speaker who will be sharing some of her knowledge with us. We are looking forward to this great event. The fundraising proceeds from the event will be benefitting the Saint John Missionary Outreach center in Brackettville. This building is the former Saint John Baptist Church, which has become a victim of time and is in need of repairs and updating. All donations for this effort are appreciated.

August 16, 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 is attached to the newsletter.

Some of our descendants will be attending this honorable celebration. We encourage anyone able to attend to do so. If any questions, please contact our office.

info@absenteeseminoletribe.org

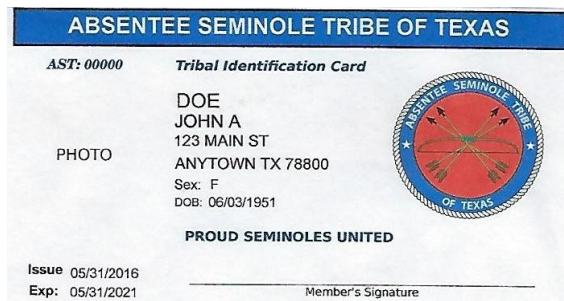
August Birthdays

Kwame T. Wrotten – Aug 6
Gregory L. Watson – Aug 8
Natalie R. King – Aug 9
Delmita D. Turner - Aug 14
Lois B. Hicks - Aug 14
Kevin C. Watson – Aug 20
Stella K. Robinson - Aug 23
Samuel R. Watson - Aug 24

Katrena B. Jackson – Aug 24
Vince Benson - Aug 29
Dawan C. Brown - Aug 29
Sidney W. Hicks – Aug 29
Regina E. Hernandez – Aug 30
Jadon O’Bryan Blanks – Aug 30
Montine D. Taylor – Aug 30



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

Website: <https://AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org>



The John Horse Inaugural Founder's Day Program *and* The Seminole Warrior Highway Signage Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Hosted by the Dosar Barkus Band of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Friday, August 16, 2024

- 9:00 am Capitol Tour
Oklahoma State Capitol
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd. - Oklahoma City, OK. 73105
South Side Visitors Entrance: Ground Floor by the Guardian Statute.
- 10:30am Departure to the Seminole Nation Museum
Seminole Nation Museum
524 S. Wewoka Avenue - Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884
- 12:00pm Luncheon
Seminole Nation Museum
524 S. Wewoka Avenue - Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884
- 1:00pm Founder's Day Program
Opening Prayer and Welcome: Phillip L. Barkus, *Dosar Barkus Band Chief*
Occasion and Introductions: Senator Anastasia A. Pittman, (ret.) *Seminole Council Representative and Dosar Barkus Band Secretary*
Special Remarks and Performance: Principal Chief Lewis Johnson, *Seminole Nation of Oklahoma*
Featured Guest Speaker: Mrs. Denys Vasquez-Welch, Chief Ex. Officer & Founder
The Wannah & John Horse Seminole Descendants Alliance, Inc.
"Remembering Chief John Horse and the Seminole People"
Wewoka Historian: Willard Tillman (Seminole), Ex. Director, Oklahoma Black Research Project
"A Rich History of Wewoka Natives"
Special Presentations: Seminole Nation of Oklahoma & the Dosar Barkus Band of Oklahoma
Special Recognition: Representative Ajay Pittman (Seminole), Vice Chair of Tourism & Member of the Joint Committee on State Tribal Relations
Instructions to Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Oklahoma Department of Transportation
Closing Prayer: Terry Edwards, Sr. Asst. Band Chief Dosar Barkus Band and Seminole Council Representative

Please follow the cars to the ODOT Site for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



SEMINOLE CELEBRATION

SEPT 21, 2024

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DENYS VASQUEZ-WELCH



CEO/FOUNDER

Wannah and John Horse Seminole Descendants Alliance, Inc.

PROUD SEMINOLES UNITED

**SEPT 21, 2024
6:00 PM – 11:00 PM**

**FORT CLARK SPGS
SERVICE CLUB
BRACKETTVILLE TX**

REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLES

ITEMS FOR SALE

**PROCEEDS BENEFITING
SAINT JOHN MISSIONARY
OUTREACH**

**ABSENTEE SEMINOLE TRIBE
OF TEXAS**