## The Chickasaw Tim Post Office Box 1548 Ada, OK 74821

# CHICKASAW



# IMES

## 2023 Tribal Election Issue -

Governor

Lt. Governor

Supreme Court
• Seat 3

Pickens District • Seat 2





BILL ANOATUBBY
Incumbent



CHRIS ANOATUBBY
Incumbent



CHERI L. BELLEFEUILLE-GORDON
Incumbent



CONNIE BARKER
Incumbent

## Register to vote by July 5

The Chickasaw citizenship/ voter application can be accessed at www.chickasaw.net.

To be eligible to vote in the upcoming tribal elections, you must have a current citizenship/voter registration on file with the tribal election secretary. Voter registration closes July 5.

For more information, contact tribal Election Secretary Rita Loder at (580) 310-6411 or rita. loder@chickasaw.net.

Pontotoc District
• Seat 3

Pontotoc District
• Seat 4

Tishomingo District • Seat 3



Incumbent



DR. KAREN GOODNIGHT
Incumbent



STEVEN WOODS
Incumbent



**SHANE LANGFORD** 



**DUSK MONETATHCHI** 

#### **ELECTION NOTICE**

#### NOTICE

The election office is preparing for the 2023 Tribal Elections. A correct mailing address must be on file for all qualified Chickasaw voters to ensure a ballot and other tribal mailouts are received. If you have moved, or if you are not sure your updated address in on file, please contact the Election Office by calling (580) 310-6411 or 1-888-661-0137.

An address change form can be completed online at www.Chickasaw.net.

# Meet your tribal election office staff and election commissioners





Jadean Imotichev **Administrative** Assistant



John Carpenter Registration Specialist



Marlana McClure Registration Specialist





#### Rita Loder Election Secretary/ Tribal Registrar



**Ron Parker** At-Large Commissioner



Rose Jefferson Pontotoc District Commissioner



TJ Harkins Pickens District Commissioner

# **Brooke Glory**

Panola District Commissioner

#### Jerri Martinz Tishomingo District **Commissioner**

#### **Chickasaw Nation Announces Candidates for General Election**

ADA, Okla. --- Chickasaw Nation Election Secretary Rita Loder has announced that Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby will remain in office for another four-year term.

Governor Anoatubby and Lt. Governor Chris Anoatubby were officially elected by a onevote margin when no challengers had filed at the close of the election filing period 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 7.

Ms. Loder also announced candidates seeking four legislative seats and one judicial seat within the Chickasaw Nation.

Pontotoc District Seat 3 incumbent legislator J. Lisa Impson, of Ada, will retain her seat as no challengers filed for the position.

Pontotoc District Seat 4 incumbent legislator Dr. Karen Goodnight, of Goldsby, will retain the seat as no challengers filed for the position.

Pickens District Seat 2 incumbent Connie Barker, of Marietta. will retain her seat as no challengers filed for the position.

Tishomingo District Seat 3 incumbent legislator Steven Woods, of Davis, will face challenger Dusk Monetathchi, of Sulphur, and Shane Langford, also of Sulphur.

Supreme Court Seat 3 incumbent Cheri Bellefuille-Gordon. of Sulphur, received no challengers and will retain the position.

Registered Chickasaw voters will vote by mail ballots, with ballots being mailed to registered Chickasaw voters July 6.

Ballots must be returned to the Chickasaw Nation Election Commission no later than 10:30 a.m., July 25, 2023. No hand-delivered ballots will be accepted.

The Chickasaw Nation Election Commission shall conduct and supervise the ballot counting beginning at 11 a.m., July 25, 2023, at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center in Ada.

Results of the elections shall be announced the same day.

For more information, contact Ms. Loder at (580) 310-6475.

#### **Chickasaw Nation Election Office**

P.O. Box 695, Ada, OK 74821 (580) 310-6475 phone (580) 310-6474 fax Toll Free: 1-888-661-0137 www. chickasaw.net/government/electionoffice

## Please Note:

Candidates who do not have challengers will not be on the ballot. Ballots will only be mailed to voters in the Tishomingo District.

**Candidates without challengers are:** Governor Bill Anoatubby; Lt. Governor Chris Anoatubby; Connie Barker, Pickens District Seat 2; J. Lisa Impson, Pontotoc District Seat 3; Dr. Karen Goodnight, Pontotoc District Seat 4; and Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon, Supreme Court Seat 3.



# Chickasaw Nation Governor -

# Bill Anoatubby, Incumbent



BILL ANOATUBBY
Incumbent

Name of candidate: Bill Anoatubby

Position candidate is filing for: Governor

District and Seat Number:  $\ensuremath{\mathrm{N/\!A}}$ 

#### **Background Information:**

After beginning his career in finance in the private sector, Bill Anoatubby began working at the Chickasaw Nation in 1975 as the tribe's health services director. He went to work in this new leadership role, implementing substantial regulations designed to increase efficiency and improve quality of service in the department of health.

The following year, he was asked to direct the tribe's finance department, where he organized and established a new centralized accounting system to help ensure the Chickasaw Nation meets the highest standards of financial stewardship and accountability. Many policies and procedures implemented during this time are still in use across the Chickasaw Nation.

In October 1978, he was promoted to the position of special assistant to the governor and controller in recognition of his leadership acumen and commitment. In 1979, he was invited to join Governor Overton James on the ballot as Lt. Governor. He was then elected as the tribe's first Lt. Governor later that year. In this new role, he functioned much like a chief operating officer and oversaw tribal operations to ensure their effectiveness.

After 8 years in his role as Lt. Governor, Gov. Anoatubby was elected to his first term as Governor in 1987. At that time, the tribe had about 250 employees and relied on federal government funding for about 98 percent of the services offered. Governor Anoatubby recognized the need to develop tribal revenue sources to better meet the needs of the Chickasaw people.

In his first term, Governor Anoatubby established goals of sustainable economic development and self-determination for the Chickasaw Nation and boundless opportunities for its people. With a commitment to creating opportunities for Chickasaw people to thrive individually, in their own families and as a nation, Governor Anoatubby began steadily working towards his mission, to enhance the overall quality of life of Chickasaw people.

This commitment has resulted in significant strides across all areas of the Chickasaw Nation including in self-determination by taking responsibility for the administration of health care, housing and other services.

Today, the Chickasaw Nation remains committed to achieving those goals. The Chickasaw Nation employs nearly 14,000 people, including thousands of Chickasaws. The financial condition of the tribe has improved tremendously due to policies of financial stewardship, an emphasis on sound investments, and a diversified business portfolio.

The tribe has improved federally funded services through compacts which enable the Chickasaw Nation to develop its own strategies and policies to meet the needs of those we serve.

This firm financial foundation has enabled the tribe to implement more than 200 programs and services for those we serve.

These programs are specifically designed to directly benefit Chickasaw citizens. These services are fully funded by the Chickasaw Nation to enhance education, health care, youth, aging, housing, and other opportunities for Chickasaw families.

Governor Anoatubby is committed to meeting the evolving needs and desires of the Chickasaw people by providing opportunities in all areas of life and the chance for every Chickasaw to succeed.

## Civic and Community Activities:

#### **Current Leadership Positions**

- · American Mother's Advisory Council, member
- · Arkansas Riverbed Authority, member
- · First Americans Museum Foundation, vice chairman

· Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, past presi-

dent

- · Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, chairman
- · Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation Board of Directors, member
- · Oklahoma State Fair, Inc. Board of Directors, member
- · Oklahomans for the Arts Board of Directors, member
- · OU Price School of Business Board of Advisors, member
- · The Goddard Center Primary Board, member
- · U.S. Global Leadership Coalition Oklahoma Advisory Committee, member

#### **Affiliations**

- · Leadership Oklahoma, member
- · National Congress of American Indians, member
- · Oklahoma Academy of State Goals, member
- · Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, member
- · Oklahomans Business Roundtable, member, executive committee
- · Oklahomans for the Arts, member

#### **Past Leadership Positions**

- · Ada Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
- · Advisory Council to the Special Trustee for American Indians, U.S. Department of the Interior, chairman
- · Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges, ECU Presidential Search Committee, member
- · Chickasaw Tribal Utility Authority Board, chair
- · Dean A. McGee Board of Trustees, member
- · East Central University Foundation, member
- · Harold Hamm Diabetes Center Board of Advisors, chairman

- · Integris Health, Inc., board member
- · Jasmine Moran Children's Museum Board of Trustees, member
- · First Nation Enterprise Advisory Council, member
- · Five Civilized Tribes Museum, board member
- · Governor Henry's Task Force on Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence
- · Leadership Oklahoma Board of Directors, member
- · Leadership Oklahoma, Class III Graduate
- Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation Board of Trustees
- · Murray State College Foundation, member Oklahoma Academy of State Goals Board, member
- · Oklahoma Business Roundtable Executive Committee, chairman
- · Oklahoma Centennial Commission, board member
- · Oklahoma City University Board of Trustees
- · Oklahoma Hall of Fame Board of Directors, chairman
- · Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board of Directors, member
- · Oklahoma Health Care Commission
- · Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors, member
- · Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission
- · Oklahoma State Board of Easter Seals and Crippled Children
- · Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce and Industry

SEE BILL ANOATUBBY, PAGE 12

# Chickasaw Nation Lt. Governor -

# Chris Anoatubby –



CHRIS ANOATUBBY Incumbent

Name of Candidate: Chris Anoatubby Position candidate is filing for: Lt. Governor Background Information:

Chris Anoatubby began his career with the Chickasaw Nation in 1997 as a staff pharmacist. His leadership and knowledge was evident early on as he was named inpatient pharmacy supervisor a year later. In 2001, he was entrusted with the role of chief of pharmacy services where his passion for health care and technology enabled him to succeed in making improvements to an already high-quality pharmacy system. While working as the Chief of Pharmacy Services, he was named Outstanding Young Pharmacist of the Year by the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Services agency for his implementation of innovative programs, exceptional leadership skills and development of mentorship programs. In 2010, he was promoted to Chief Medical Solutions Officer and president of the tribe's Sovereign Medical Solutions within the Department of Commerce.

As he worked to improve the efficiencies of the Chickasaw Nation health care system, Chris led the implementation of patient electronic records, pharmacy interface systems, patch testing and pharmacy database systems. He also played a major role in the creation of the state-of-the-art automated pharmacy center in Ada that opened in 2007.

While serving as Under Secretary of the Department of Commerce, he was instrumental in the development of business diversification efforts in health care, pharmaceutical industries, health information technology and other health related businesses. His responsibilities also included analyzing industry trends and changes in the political and economic environment to help guide Chickasaw Nation plans for economic diversification opportunities.

In 2018, Chris was named Deputy Secretary of the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health where he was responsible for direct operational oversight of all clinical and nonclinical programs and services within the department. In this role, he served as the Chief Operating Officer for the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, Ardmore Clinic, Tishomingo Clinic, and Purcell Clinic.

As Lt. Governor, Chris helped lead the Chickasaw Nation pandemic response, which enabled the Chickasaw Nation to help keep infection rates and negative health impacts to a minimum for its elders, families, citizens, employees, and neighbors.

Lt. Governor Anoatubby has

also played a significant role in leading the response to the exponential increase in criminal justice responsibilities resulting from the *McGirt v. Oklahoma* ruling, which expanded our criminal justice jurisdiction from approximately three percent of the Chickasaw Nation treaty territory to 100 percent of the land within our boundaries.

Throughout his career, he has poured an institutional knowledge and passion for service into each of his roles. He is dedicated to furthering the mission of the Chickasaw Nation and opportunities for the Chickasaw people long into the future.

#### **Educational Background:**

Chris Anoatubby graduated from Byng High School in 1990. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 1997. He later earned a master's degree in business administration from Southeastern State University in Durant, Okla.

## Civic and/or Community Awards:

#### **Board Positions:**

- · University of Oklahoma Foundation, Board of Trustees
- · Science Museum of Oklahoma, Board of Trustees
- · Leadership Oklahoma, Board of Directors
- · United Way of Central Oklahoma, Advisory Trustee
- US Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee Primary Delegate
- · IHS Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee - Chair

#### **Affiliations:**

·Leadership Oklahoma, Mem-

ber

#### Past Leadership Roles:

- · Ada Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Chairman
- · American Heart Association, Central Heart Walk Chair, SE Heart Walk Co-Chair
- · Chickasaw Nation Health Systems Post Graduate Year One Program, Residency Preceptor – Leadership and Administration
- · Leadership Oklahoma, Class XXIV
- · Southwestern Oklahoma State University College of Pharmacy, Adjunct Faculty
- · University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy, Adjunct Faculty

#### **Awards and Honors:**

·2012 The Journal Record's Achievers Under 40 - Class IX

·2007 Outstanding Young Pharmacist of the Year

#### Goal as Lt. Governor:

Working for the Chickasaw Nation for more than two decades has given me the unique opportunity to see how the people we serve are impacted by the work we do. During that time, we have witnessed steady progress in economic development and growth in the quantity and quality of the services we offer.

Business diversification has increased the number and variety of job opportunities available. Improving access to high quality health care has helped ensure those we serve receive the medical treatment they need. Placing a higher priority on preventive health care to help those we serve practice better nutrition and take part in a more active lifestyle is helping Chickasaws live longer,

healthier lives.

Those are only a few examples of the growth and development we plan to continue into the future. We have made great strides as we work to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people, but there is more to do. My goal is to continue supporting the work of Governor Anoatubby and our leadership team as we serve the Chickasaw people.

### Name of spouse and children:

Wife, Becky. Son, Brendan. Daughters, Eryn and Sydney.

## Personal message to the Chickasaw people:

Thank you for your support. Serving the Chickasaw Nation as Lt. Governor has been an incredible learning experience.

Before I came to work for the Chickasaw Nation, I saw our Governor working hard for the Chickasaw people every day. His example has been a major influence on my decision to work for and serve the Chickasaw people.

Throughout my 26 years working for the Chickasaw Nation, we have been experiencing amazing progress and reaching new milestones on a consistent basis. In the last two decades, the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health has made tremendous progress in the number of patients served, the types of services available and increases in preventive health care.

As a nation, we have made immense progress in the number of Chickasaws who pursue higher education. We have also made great progress in housing, family services, veteran services and many other areas.

SEE CHRIS ANOATUBBY, PAGE 7

# Pickens District • Seat 2

# Connie Barker



**CONNIE BARKER** Incumbent

Name of candidate: Connie Barker

Position candidate is filing **for:** Legislator

District and Seat Number: Pickens District. Seat 2

#### **Background Information:**

Connie is the daughter of James Riley and Andrea Mobley, of Marietta, Okla. She and her husband have four children, Brandon Mathews, Montana Williams, Nikki Barker, and Alise Barker. Connie was elected in 2008 to serve the Chickasaw citizens as a Tribal Legislator representing Pickens District. Seat 2.

She currently serves as Legislative Secretary and has served two prior terms as Legislative Secretary and two terms as Legislative Chairperson.

She was appointed to the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee in June 2009 and voted in as Tribal Co-Chair in 2010. TLDC is a national committee that advises the director of the Indian Health Service regarding diabetes prevention and treatment in Indian Country.

Barker represents all Native American tribes in Oklahoma and parts of Kansas and Texas.

Mrs. Barker was recently appointed to the CDC/ATSDR (Centers for Disease Control Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry) in Atlanta, representing tribes at large, and is currently serving as Cochair.

#### **Educational Background:**

Mrs. Barker is a graduate of Marietta High School and a graduate of Murray State College in Tishomingo. She studied at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kan.

#### Civic and/or Community Activities:

Mrs. Barker is very active in her community. She has served on the Marietta Board of Education 2004-2021. She is currently a member of the E-911 board, serving 10 years as Chairper-

She is a member of the Love County Chamber of Commerce. serving as past president. She is also a member of the Marietta Lions Club. Love County Frontier Days Committee, and an honor graduate of Leadership Love County. She is a founding member of the Love County Women's Shelter and Turning Point Coalition. She and her family attend Eastside Baptist Church where Connie serves as Church Treasurer.

Mrs. Barker has worked as Administrator of the Mercy Health Love County Rural Health Clinic for 32 years with a total of 40 years as a health care professional.

#### Goal as a member of the **Chickasaw Legislature:**

My goal as Chickasaw Nation As a committee member, Mrs. Tribal Legislator is to support sustained economic growth of the Chickasaw Nation, support education programs for the youth and adult learners and advance of the knowledge of the workforce. I support access to quality health care for our citizens and use whatever skills available to me to assist the continued growth of the Chickasaw Nation and embrace necessary change.

Name of spouse and children: She and her husband have four children. Brandon Mathews, Montana Williams, Nikki Barker, and Alise Barker.

Personal Message to the

#### **Chickasaw People:**

I am seeking re-election as a Chickasaw Tribal Leaislator representing Pickens District because I believe my contributions to my fellow Chickasaw citizens are through my leadership skills, service to my community, life experiences, board experiences and my love for serving others.

*My experiences include many* years in health care management, business operations and ethics, planning committees and community service. I feel the need to continue to give back to the Chickasaw Nation, pay homage to those great leaders before

me, carry on their legacy of service and to make sure those leaders who come after me have the best infrastructure possible to provide the same great services we all enjoy today.

I appreciate your support throughout my past terms and have recently learned that no one filed for my position, so I am officially reelected as your Legislator. Thank you once again for allowing me to serve as your Pickens District Seat 2 Legislator. God bless vou and God bless the Chickasaw Nation.

## THE CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL ELECTION 2023 PRIMARY ELECTION SCHEDULE

**June 5-7:** 

Candidate filing period (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) at the Election Secretary's Office.

By Appointments

June 9:

Challenge to Candidacy ends at 5 p.m.

**June 12:** 

Drawing for position on the

Candidates may pick up print-outs & USB flash drive.

June 12:

Last day to submit photo & biography to "Chickasaw Times" (by 4:00 pm)

Press release for candidates (news/media)

**June 22:** 

Ballots mailed to voters who reside out of the contiguous 48 states

July 5:

Voter registration closes. 12:00 NOON

July 6:

After 12 p.m. candidates may pick up updated printouts & USB flash drive.

**July 6:** 

Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.

**July 20:** 

Last day to appoint a watcher. **July 25:** 

2023 Primary Election (last day to return ballots; no later than 10:30 a.m.)

Ballot tabulation begins @ 11

Unofficial results posted immediately

Press Release made to public. **July 25:** 

Voter registration re-opens, if no run-off election.

**July 28:** 

Recount period ends.

October 2:

Oath of Office Ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

## THE CHICKASAW NATION **2023 RUN-OFF ELECTION SCHEDULE** (IF NEEDED)

August 1:

Candidates may pick up print-outs & USB flash drive (after 12:00 p.m.)

August 10:

Ballots mailed to ALL qualified voters.

August 24:

Last day to appoint a watcher for the run-off election.

August 29:

2023 Run-Off Election (last day to return ballots: no later than 10:30 a.m.)

Ballot tabulation begins @ 11 a.m.

Unofficial results posted immediately

Press Release made to public.

August 29: Voter registration re-opens

September 1:

Recount period ends.

October 2:

Oath of Office ceremony (11:00 a.m.)

Oath of office ceremony (11 a.m.)

# Pontotoc District • Seat 3

# J. Lisa Impson, Incumbent -



J. LISA IMPSON Incumbent

Name of candidate: J. Lisa Impson

Position candidate is filing **for:** Legislator

District and Seat Number: Pontotoc District, Seat 3

#### **Background information:**

I was born in Tishomingo, Okla., and raised in Ada, Okla, I come from a long line of strong Chickasaws. My parents are Ouanah and Sherry (Frazier) Nail, of Ada, Okla. My maternal grandparents are the late Joe B. and Ruth (Stick) Frazier, of Tishomingo, Okla. My paternal grandparents are the late Benjamin Nail and Virginia "Fern" (Hurt) Nail, of Fillmore, Okla. My maternal great-grandparents Linton and Melvina (Illetewahke) Stick and Fletcher and Lela (Greenwood) Frazier and paternal great-grandparents Harrison and Julia (Fillmore) Nail were all original enrollees.

#### **Educational background:**

I attended Byng High School, Ada, and graduated from Ignacio High School in Ignacio, Colo. I then attended college at Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colo., and East Central University,

the Native American Student Association and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. I am also a graduate of the University of Tulsa College of Law where I earned a Juris Doctor and a Native American Law Certificate, as well as a graduate of the University of Oklahoma where I earned a Master of Public Administra-

#### Civic and/or community activities:

My professional and community involvement includes service as charter member and past Chair of the Chickasaw Bar Association, Chair of the Oklahoma Bar Association Indian Law Section and Vice-Chair of the Oklahoma Indian Bar Association. I have served as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Chickasaw Historical Society and as a member of the Chickasaw Nation Head Start Policy Council. In addition, as a representative of the Chickasaw Nation, I was accepted into the Leadership Oklahoma program and am a graduate of Class 34. I am also a graduate of the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Ada program and have volunteered with local Chamber activities as a member of the City of Ada Beautification and Infrastructure Task Force. In addition, I serve as the Treasurer for Ada First Indian Baptist Church, where my family and I are long-time members.

#### Goal as member of the **Chickasaw Legislature:**

I currently have the privilege of serving as Chair of the Legislative Committee, Vice-Chair of both the Finance Committee and the Human Resources

Ada, where I became part of Committee and as a member of the Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Committee and Education Committee. Through work in these committees, over the past term I have supported measures to improve important services to citizens and to support and enhance the strength of the Chickasaw Nation. Some of these measures include increases in utility support payments and educational benefits: the expansion of the Nation's court system; the development and future construction of a medical center in Newcastle; and economic development and tourism projects such as West Bay Casino and Resort in Kingston and the hotel and

event center expansion at Win-Star World Resort and Casino in Thackerville.

In my next term. I commit to represent you, our citizens, to the best of my ability; to listen to you and be an advocate for your needs; and to continue to support and advance legislation that improves and enhances the strength and sovereignty of the Chickasaw Nation.

## Name of spouse and chil-

My husband, John, and I have been married for 23 years. John is a teacher and coach at Latta Public Schools. We are the proud parents of Danya and Jacoby, both of whom are participating in the Toksali Smart

program this summer. Jacoby is also a participant of the Chikasha Pehlichi Ikbi (Youth Leadership) program.

#### Personal Message to the Chickasaw people:

Serving on the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature for the past two terms has been one of the highest honors of my life. It is a responsibility that I do not take for granted, and I am humbled to have the opportunity to continue serving in this capacity.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you. Please let me know how I may be of better service to you.

Chokma'shki and may God continue to bless the Chickasaw Nation!

## Complete your ballot properly make your vote count!

Do you know the correct way to complete your election ballot? There is such a procedure in assuring that your vote will be counted in this year's election. Failure to correctly complete your ballot can result in your vote being ruled "invalid" by the Chickasaw Nation Election Commission.

Here are some helpful reminders when casting your vote in July.

1. Fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate for whom you are voting using a No. 2 pencil or black ink pen. Ballots are tabulated by Scantron, which recognizes pencil or black ink. Do not circle, check or underline the candidates' names.

2. Sign your signature on the outside ballot envelope exactly as it reads, using a blue or black ink pen. Be sure to write vour signature in cursive. Do not print. Notice: A hole is punched in the envelope to verify the ballot was inserted.

3. The bar code that appears on the outside envelope is for tabulating purposes only and is not to be written anywhere on the ballot or envelope.

4. Do not put more than one ballot in the inner envelope. Although there may be several voters in a household, no ballots will be counted if all ballots are mailed in one envelope.

5. Complete and mail your ballot as soon as you receive it so it will reach the Ada Post Office by Tuesday, July 25, 2023, the last day the ballots will be received. Ballots are mailed to all qualified voters on July 6, 2023. This is nineteen (19) days prior to ballot counting day. The ballots go to the Oklahoma City Post Office prior to the Ada Post Office. It will take at least three days before the ballots actually arrive in Ada. Do not wait until the weekend before the deadline to mail your ballot. Doing so may cause it to be late.

6. Make sure that your ballot is not soiled or scribbled on. It must be legible.

7. **Finally, vote!** This is your privilege, so use it. Ballots will remain in the Ada Post Office until they are picked up by the Election Commissioners on ballot counting day, July 25, 2021.

If you have any questions about your voter registration, completing your ballot or if you do not receive your ballot, please contact Rita Loder, Election Secretary at the Election Commission office, (580) 310-6475 or 1-888-661-0137.

# Pontotoc District • Seat 4-

# Dr. Karen Goodnight, Incumbent



DR. KAREN GOODNIGHT Incumbent

Name of candidate:
Dr. Karen Goodnight
Position candidate is filing
for: Legislator

**District and Seat Number:** Pontotoc District, Seat 4

#### Background Information:

I was born in Ardmore, Okla., in 1962. I am the daughter of the late Dean (Sealey) McManus. and Harold McManus. I am the granddaughter of Luchuess and Odelia Sealey, and great-granddaughter of original enrollees, Calvin, and Alice Brown, I live in Goldsby, Oklahoma and I have been married to my husband Stan for 39 years. We are blessed with three wonderful children: one son, Kyle, his wife Kelli, and their son, (our only grandson) Lawson, and twin daughters, Madie, and Katie Goodnight.

#### **Educational Background:**

I grew up in Gailey, Okla., and attended Vanoss High School. I received my B.A. degree in Early Childhood Education from East Central University and an M.A. in Administration from E.C.U. In 1995, I began my career with the Chickasaw Nation as the Director of Head Start and Child

Care programs. I was then appointed as the Administrator to the Governor for the Education Division and served in that role until 2002. It was then I decided to attend college fulltime to complete the Ph.D. in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum at the University of Oklahoma. While pursuing my Ph.D., I returned to the Chickasaw Nation Division of Commerce to serve as their Chief Training Officer until the Fall of 2012, when I started my own private consulting business, Goodnight & Associates, LLC. Today, I continue to manage my business and serve in the prestigious role of Tribal Legislator-one of my highest honors in life.

### Civic and/or Community Activities:

During my college years, I served as the Holmes Scholar Representative from the University of Oklahoma from 2004-2006. I received the Chickasaw Nation Research and Publication Award for Best Doctoral Dissertation "Chikashsha Poya Tingba." I was the award winner of The Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year (2014). I served on the board for the Oklahoma Tribal Finance Consortium and was active in the Oklahoma Native Economic Impact Committee for the past five years. I am currently the Chair for Go Red for Women/ Circle of Red with the American Heart Association in honor of my late siblings and parents who all suffered with heart disease.

## Goal as a member of the Chickasaw Legislature:

My passion is building relationships and making meaningful connections. My priority is to continue to represent the Chickasaw people with empathy, dedication, and integrity in the Pontotoc District as well as all Chickasaw citizens of the Chickasaw Nation. As a Chickasaw. I am deeply honored and proud to serve in this role, as I take it very seriously. I promise to be available and approachable and to assist in any way that I can. I'll never forget the words of my mother, the late Dean McManus who served as a Chickasaw Legislator for 18 years. She told me the job of a Chickasaw legislator is to provide for elders, young ones, and all Chickasaws looking for good employment. She also

said, "There are Chickasaws who have hit a rough patch and struggling in their lives, they are just as important and we need to seek them out and help them, too."

### Name of spouse and children:

Dr. Goodnight and her husband, Stan, have three children, son Kyle and his wife, Kelli and their son, Lawson and twin daughters Madie and Katie.

## Personal Message to the Chickasaw people:

I am beyond grateful to serve another term as your Pontotoc District Legislator and will focus on the efforts of supporting and enhancing the many vital programs and services offered by our Tribe, to increase the expansion of our businesses and diversification projects, as well always advocating for education and health care initiatives.

My many years of experience working for the Chickasaw Nation has equipped me with the knowledge I need to represent and to serve as a voice for the Chickasaw people.

I want to say thank you, and it is a true privilege to serve in this position.

I am excited and looking forward to the future- serving alongside you- because together we can accomplish great things! Chokma'shki!

## **CHRIS ANOATUBBY**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

As a people, we have learned more about our history and culture, which has helped us grow even closer to one another. We are also sharing our culture with the world. More than 880,000 people from around the world have visited the Chickasaw Cultural Center. Hundreds of thou

sands more have seen our feature films, documentaries and videos that tell the story of our perseverance and our impact on history from our perspective.

It has been an amazing experience to be part of that progress and share the joy of that success with my fellow Chickasaws. I will

continue to focus on working for the Chickasaw people and look forward to assisting our Governor and our team in leading our areat Nation.

With the continued support of the Chickasaw people, we will continue to build an ever brighter future together.

## Register to vote by July 5

The Chickasaw citizenship/voter application can be accessed at www.chickasaw.net.

To be eligible to vote in the upcoming tribal elections, you must have a current citizenship/voter registration on file with the tribal election secretary. Voter registration closes July 5.

For more information, contact tribal Election Secretary Rita Loder at (580) 310-6411 or rita. loder@chickasaw.net.

**8** CHICKASAW TIMES July 2023

# Supreme Court • Seat 3

# Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon, Incumbent



CHERI L. BELLEFEUILLE-GORDON Incumbent

Name of candidate: Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon Position candidate is filing for: Supreme Court Justice

**District and Seat Number:** Supreme Court, Seat 3

#### **Background Information:**

Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon was born in Ardmore, Okla., on December 29, 1968, to Russell and Donna Bellefeuille. She had one sister, Cris Bellefeuille and has one brother, Chuck Bellefeuille and his wife, Kendall Chadwick Bellefeuille.

Her grandparents are Ben and Viola Seeley and greatgrandparents were original enrollees, Mamie Tushkatomby and Walter Seeley. She worked at Hurst Law in Sulphur, Okla., 1991-2021, as a legal secretary, paralegal and office manager. She currently works at Fob F. Jones, law office in Sulphur as a legal secretary and paralegal, since February, 2021. Justice Bellefeuille-Gordon has been a Supreme Court Justice for the Chickasaw Nation, Ada, Okla., since October 1, 2002. Her experience in law provides an excellent background to serve as a Supreme Court Justice.

#### **Educational Background:**

Graduated from Sulphur High School, 1987; East Central University, 1991, B.A. in pre-law with a minor in accounting and services for the deaf. Each year obtaining 12 hours of continuing legal education and 2 hour of ethics in Native American Issues and Indian Country.

## Civic/or Community Activities:

Chickasaw Princess (1989-1990); Chairman of Carl Albert Indian Health Facility Board, board member representing the Tishomingo District at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility 1993-2003; Former president of the Sulphur/Davis Community Council; Chickasaw Nation Headstart of Sulphur parent committee, 2002 and 2011-2013; Peacemakers-administrative assistant/trainer 1990-1991; Sulphur Kiwanis Club member: Sulphur Bulldog Booster Club member; Chickasaw Regional Library System-chairman and board member representing the City of Sulphur (1998-2010); Sulphur GFWC Sorosis member: Sulphur Chamber of Commerce and volunteers with the Avenue of Angels Project; Noah's Project; Member of Praise & Worship Team at the Abundant Life Church. Member of the NAICIA. Member of Federal Bar Association, President of Title VI and President of JOM for Sulphur Public Schools, 2007-to present; Board member of the Sulphur Foundation for Excellence. 2018-to present; 20th District Division Treatment Court, Inc., president, 2021-to present.

**Tribal Accomplishments:** Justice Bellefeuille-Gordon is the first woman in the history of the Chickasaw Nation to

serve as Chief Justice beginning the year 2003-2005; 2007-2008; 2010-2011; 2013-2014; 2016-2017; 2019-2020; and 2022-2023. Justice Bellefeuille-Gordon was instrumental in establishing a Judicial Scholarship for a Chickasaw student attending law school and the judicial court camp.

#### **Awards and Honors:**

Outstanding Volunteer of the Sulphur Headstart; Kiwanian of the Year, George F. Hixon Award; Distinguished Service Award; Presidential Appreciation Award; Outstanding Club Secretary; TX-OK Kiwanis Foundation Lifetime Member: President's Distinguished Service Award; Outstanding Leadership and Distinguished Service Award; Kiwanian of the Month; Committee Chairman Award-Worldwide Service Project; Certification of Recognition-IDD Red Light; GFWC-OK Outstanding Volunteer-South Central; GFWC-OK Certificate of Appreciation: and March of Dimes Native American Family Poster Project for Premature Awareness of Oklahoma.

# Goal as a member of the Chickasaw Judicial Department:

Preserving the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation. Help the individual tribal members to be certain that tribal affairs are conducted in a proper and legal manner. Interpret laws as they apply to the constitution and to make sure individual rights are protected and that legislative acts are constitutional and affairs of the Chickasaw Nation are conducted constitutionally. To serve the Chickasaw people in a manner that is exemplary of a supreme court justice.

## Name of spouse and children:

Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon is married to Daniel James Gordon, and they have two (2) sons, Noah Gordon who is 26 years old and currently the senior operation manager at Goldsby Casino and his lovely wife, Kirby Gordon and AJ Gordon who is 14 years old and attending Sulphur Public Schools.

## Personal Message to the Chickasaw people:

I'm very proud of my Chickasaw heritage. It has been my honor and privilege to serve on the Supreme Court for the past 21 years. I have and will continue to be a voice for the people of the Chickasaw Nation.

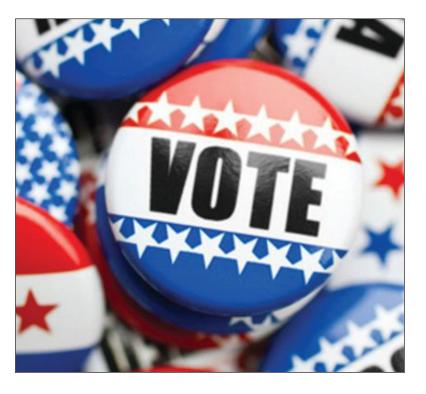
I am dedicated to the Chick-

asaw Nation, the Chickasaw citizens and the Judicial Department. I will continue my efforts to assist in providing a Chickasaw court system that will serve our citizens in a friendly, fairly, efficient and effective manner with dignity and respect.

Our Judicial Department is a very important part of the Chickasaw Nation's sovereignty.

I will work hard, and am honored to serve as one of your tribal justices.

I appreciate your support during my journey on the Supreme Court and thank you for your confidence in me. Your trust in me is held with great honor. Please don't hesitate to contact me.



# Tishomingo District • Seat 3

# Steven Woods, Incumbent-



STEVEN WOODS
Incumbent

Name of Candidate: Steven E. Woods Position candidate is filing for: Tribal Legislature

**District and seat number:** Tishomingo District, Seat 3

#### **Background Information:**

Mr. Woods was born January 9, 1961 to Jerry and Patricia Woods. His grandmother Almeda James Engle, great-grandfather Author H. James, Suel James, Josephine Brown James, Leona Colbert Wesley, and Esau Seeley, were all Chickasaw original enrollees.

Mr. Woods has been married to his wife Paula for 44 years and resides in Davis, Okla. They have two children, Christi and Brad; four granddaughters, Mallorie, Zoie and Keeli (Yimmi'), Aspen; a grandson A. J.; and one great-grandson Ronan (Loksi').

Mr. Woods was employed by the Chickasaw Housing Authority in the Development Department from 1980-1985.

He retired in 2018 as Senior Radiation Safety Officer at Halliburton Energy Services after 28 years. He served as a Supreme Court Justice of the Chickasaw Nation 1992 to 2002. He has served, and continues to serve, as a Legislator for the Tishomingo District, Seat 3, since 2002.

#### **Educational Background:**

Mr. Woods attended Stratford High School and was salutatorian. He went on to attend East Central University in Ada for two years then transferred to the University of Oklahoma in Norman where he completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering.

## Civic and/or community activities:

Appointed by the Governors of Oklahoma to the Oklahoma Radiation Management Advisory Council from 1993 to 2018. Board member of Chickasaw Nation Industries (CNI) for 17 years. CNI is a federally- chartered corporation wholly owned by the Chickasaw Nation, Headquartered in Norman, Okla., CNI serves as a holding company with multiple subsidiaries that operate as Limited Liability Companies (LLCs) engaged in several lines of business including Civilian, Defense, Filtration, Network Services, and Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.

#### **Awards and Honors:**

Mr. Woods has written, presented, and published numerous papers at conferences and symposiums for the Health Physics Society, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Society of Mechanical Engineers, The Petroleum Society of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors.

Goal as a member of the Chickasaw Legislature:

My goals are to represent the Chickasaw people by providing professionally and thoroughly researched decisions on any matters that are brought before the Legislature.

I will make sure that the direction our tribe takes will be one that will provide education for our youth, jobs for our people both inside and outside the Chickasaw Nation boundaries, and promote the wellbeing of our citizens, especially our elders.

I will continue to support increased education scholarships for all Chickasaw youth, clothing grants for college students, and clothing grants for school age students Head Start through 12th grade.

Economic development is critical, and creation of other tribal businesses in addition to gaming is a priority.

Job creation is very important. Property management to allow recreational use. Expansion of At-Large programs for Chickasaws living outside the boundaries.

## Personal Message to the Chickasaw people:

As a member of the Legislature, it has been my great pleasure and privilege to serve you since 2002.

The Chickasaw Nation is the most progressive, successful and citizen-focused tribe in the country. I promise to be open-minded and fair as I represent all the voters of the Tishomingo District.

Over the course of my terms serving you, I have worked hard to bring business, tourism, employment and new opportunities to Tishomingo District. The scope of these important projects is unprecedented in all Chickasaw Nation history.

Education, health care, elder care, housing, veterans, transportation and cultural enrichment programs have all received my support.

Whether you live in Tishomingo District or elsewhere in the country, you can count on me to work on your behalf. I take a deep personal interest in all things which affect the Chickasaw people and our whole Chickasaw Nation as well.

As a member of the Chickasaw Nation Supreme Court and the Court Development team, I have worked with the Executive and Legislative Departments in pursing the expansion of the existing court system. I support a court system that will incorporate traditions and customs of the Chickasaw people.

It has been a blessing and great privilege to have served the Chickasaw people for the past 21 years on our legislature. My past experience on our tribal legislature has taught me how to get things done.

I have developed good working relationships across the board. This experience translates into excellent results for the Tishomingo District.

I ask for your continued support, and your vote, in this upcoming election. Together we have achieved great things. With your vote, we will keep the momentum moving forward.

## Please Note:

Candidates who **do not** have challengers will **not be** on the ballot. **Ballots will only be mailed to voters in the Tishomingo District.** 

**Candidates without challengers are:** Governor Bill Anoatubby; Lt. Governor Chris Anoatubby; Connie Barker, Pickens District Seat 2; J. Lisa Impson, Pontotoc District Seat 3; Dr. Karen Goodnight, Pontotoc District Seat 4; and Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon, Supreme Court Seat 3.

# Tishomingo District • Seat 3

# Shane Langford



**SHANE LANGFORD** 

Name of candidate:
Shane Langford
Position candidate is filing
for:

Legislator

**District and seat number:** Tishomingo District, seat 3 **Background information:** 

I want to start by thanking my family and friends for allowing me this opportunity to represent the Chickasaw Nation as your new Chickasaw legislator from the Tishomingo district seat three. I have always wanted to give back to my tribe after all the help I have received over the years with all the tribal programs, and I want these programs to help all Chickasaws not just a few Chickasaws.

My services were suspended four years ago after receiving medical from the Carl Albert system for over 35 years. It is disappointing our current health care system does not treat everyone the same.

I have watched the Chickasaw Nation grow from a small paper bingo hall into owning the biggest casino in the world and into the multi-billion-dollar enterprise the Chickasaw Nation is today. I think some of our elected officials ignore my requests for medical service.

I have been forced to put my coaching and teaching career on hold to pursue this dream of mine and that's to ensure the overall quality of life for all Chickasaws not just a few Chickasaws, I know Chickasaws live paycheck to paycheck and top executives are being paid way more than the average worker makes. Our wealth should be for health care, education, our elders' programs and housing, not for our tribal leaders' personal salaries. As Chickasaw citizens we are entitled to basic services through treaties with the U.S. government and we should be receiving them because they are for us and as a total autonomous sovereign nation, we should be able to use our courts in ouir favor to enforce these treaties and government funding.

I'm asking for all Chickasaw citizens who's tired of being ignored and neglected when there are programs that should be helping them. I don't get the response I should get when I have called and left messages.

I am asking you to vote for real change in the Chickasaw Nation and vote for me Shane Langford as your new Chickasaw legislator and I promise you I will work on cutting tribal leaders salaries, raising minimum wage, per capita payments. I will assure every citizen has access to the medical care of their choosing and we will build more hospitals not casinos, hire more doctors not Lighthorse Police, build more dentists offices and not giving top executives 6 figure salaries.

The Chickasaw Nation has

become a multi-billion-dollar enterprise and vote for me and I will assure that every Chickasaw citizen has access to decent health care, education, housing and employment of their choosing and by making this my new full-time job that meets more than just once every month but here for all Chickasaw citizens 365 days a year. Thank you, God Bless and looking forward to your vote.

#### **Educational background:**

I live in Sulphur, Okla., and have a bachelor's degree in

history education. I work as a substitute teacher and private coach. Graduate of East Central University and attended SOSU iin Durant and OSU in Stillwater.

## Goal as a member of the Chickasaw Legislature:

My goal is to enhance the overall quality of life for all Chickasaws, not just a few Chickasaws.

#### Family information:

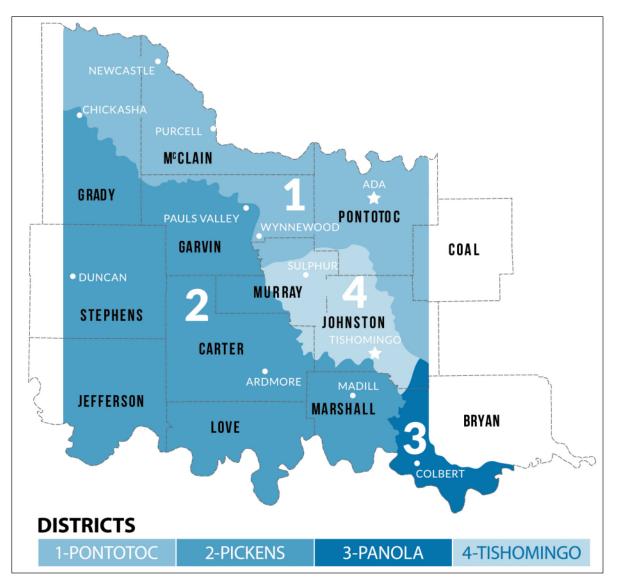
My mother and father are Gene and Cindy Langford. An older brother Stephen Langford and a twin brother Shawn Langford.

## Personal message to the Chickasaw people:

I am running for Chickasaw legislator to assure that Chickasaw are never ignored or neglected again.

My mother Cindy Langford is a full-blood Chickasaw and this is very rare today. I will continue to work for all Chickasaws regardless of their blood quantity.

My goal is to enhance the overall quality of life for all Chickasaws, not just a few Chickasaws.



# Tishomingo District • Seat 3

# Dusk Monetathchi



**DUSK MONETATHCHI** 

Name of candidate:
Dusk Monetathchi
Position candidate is filing
for:

Legislator

**District and seat number:** Tishomingo District, seat 3 **Background information:** 

I have spent my entire life living within the Chickasaw reservation area. I grew up with tradition, a huge family and learning respect for our elders. As a boy, many times I went with my grandma, Mary Hamilton-Underwood, to the community building at Overton James Apartments in Tishomingo to watch her work on various crafts. In the evening my grandpa, Joe Underwood, would sit at his handmade desk and study a large print bible. He served as a deacon at the First Indian Baptist Church in Ardmore. Both my grandparents, Joe and Mary Underwood and my mother Delores Underwood-Monetathchi are full-blood Chickasaw citizens. My values stem from their inspiration and teachings.

As a young adult with a young family, I began my career

working for the Chickasaw Nation Head Start program while my own children attended. During my 28 years with the Chickasaw Nation, I have had the privilege to witness astonishing growth. Highlights of my career for the Chickasaw Nation include teaching children and building youth programs, such as youth councils and sports camps, working in the early stages of the language department and being a part of the Chickasaw Nation's newly formed law enforcement division. As our Chickasaw Nation grows to be more independent, I've seen our leadership strive to hold our native sovereignty. I believe our sovereignty must be maintained.

#### **Educational background:**

I attended grade school at Mannsville Elementary and then graduated from Tishomingo High School. I attended Murray State College and Hillsdale Freewill Baptist College, majoring in biblical studies. As I transitioned into law enforcement, I attended the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Artesia, N.M.

## Civic and/or community activities:

In addition to working for the Chickasaw Nation, I have been serving in ministry all my adult life. I received my license to minister from the First Indian Baptist Church in Tishomingo Okla., under Pastor Pete Walls, my first sermon was only 5 minutes long. I also served as a youth pastor and under pastor with several different churches and great pastors such as Charlie Carter, Jerry Imotichey and Nelson Baken, Currently, I serve as pastor of a wonderful little country church in the iconic community of Fillmore, Okla.

In the county in which I reside, I serve on the Murray Co. rural water district II board. Our board works hard to ensure that rural Murray County residents are supplied with water now and in the future.

#### Awards and honors:

While attending the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center BPOT #101 in Artesia, I graduated with honors as the top cadet for our class. This honor I carry with pride. I was privileged to be the first law enforcement officer for the Chickasaw Nation's newly formed LEO division currently known as Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police.

## Goal as a member of the Chickasaw Legislature:

My goal as a Chickasaw Leg-

islator will be to enhance an already strong Chickasaw government and its people. The astounding growth and respect our tribe has achieved makes me excited about what the future endeavors as a nation and native people we will see.

## Name of spouse and children:

My wife Robin and I are proud parents and grandparents of an incredible blended Chickasaw family. Children include Jordan, of Ada, Okla., Janessa, of Roff, Okla., Jaisen, of Ada, Jara, of New Jersey, Kira, of Ada and Jake of the home. I am also a proud gran-poppie of Zandan, Tytes, Tytan, Braylin, Joe, Zoey and River.

## Personal message to the Chickasaw people:

I believe a tribal legislator is

an honored position within our Chickasaw culture. If elected, I will commit to strengthening communication between the Chickasaw people and the tribal government. I will lobby to protect natural resources and conservation of native lands. With a law enforcement background, I will continue to push for strengthening the Chickasaw Nation judicial system. I will voice my support for educational and homeownership opportunities for all Chickasaw citizens within our boundaries and those living outside the reservation.

I am Chickasaw Strong and very proud of my Chickasaw heritage. On July 25, 2023, I would love to become your Tishomingo District legislator. Chi pisa acho.

Follow me on Facebook!!

#### This year's Chickasaw Annual Meeting & Festival is set for Sept. 29 through Oct. 7

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - A time of reunion, fellowship and cultural pride, this year's Chickasaw Annual Meeting and Festival is set for Sept. 29 through Oct. 7.

The weeklong event will feature the coronation of tribal princesses, stickball games, a 5K and fun run, archery, senior and junior Olympics, golf, horseshoe and cornhole tournaments, and more.

Guests can also browse and purchase artwork created by artists of Southeastern and Woodlands tribes at the Southeastern Art Show and Market (SEASAM).

Venues in the Tishomingo, Ada and Sulphur areas will host activities throughout the week. Several activities are planned in Tishomingo, including a one-mile fun walk and 5K run, co-ed softball tournament, a golf tournament, museum tours, junior Olympics and a stickball tournament.

Three young ladies will be crowned Chickasaw Princess, Little Miss Chickasaw and Chickasaw Junior Princess during the Chickasaw Princess Pageant at the Ada High School Cougar Activity Center. New princesses will serve the remainder of 2023 and into autumn 2024 as ambassadors of the Chickasaw Nation at events around the state and across the nation.

Chickasaw Cultural Evening will take place at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, and include artists, Chickasaw Press authors and a traditional meal. The night's festivities will also include the presentation of the prestigious Silver Feather

Award, an elite award for tribal members who dedicate themselves to the preservation and revitalization of Chickasaw language, culture and lifeways.

The hub of activity is the Chickasaw National Capitol, in Tishomingo. Attendees can learn to play stickball, try their hand at archery, tour historic Chickasaw Nation buildings, stomp dance and learn techniques in ancient arts and crafts during the week.

A complete list of events, locations and schedules will become available online at AnnualMeeting.Chickasaw.net. The event schedule is subject to change.

Follow Chickasaw Nation social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

For more information call (580) 371-2040.

## BILL ANOATUBBY | CONTINUED FROM PAGE

**Board of Directors** 

- · Oklahoma State Fair, Inc. Board of Directors
- · Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Business School Advisory Board, memher
- · Task Force on the Future of Higher Education, member
- · Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Advisory Committee
- Tri-County Indian Nations Development Corporation, board member
- · United Indian Nations in Oklahoma, chairman
- · United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, member and co-chairman
- 5 Who Care, board member **Awards and Honors:**
- · 2023 Community Literacy Centers Gourley Leaders in Literacy Award
- · 2022 National Native American Hall of Fame Inductee
- · 2022 REI Oklahoma Dream BIG Vision Award
- · 2022 First Americans Museum Distinguished Service Award
- · 2022 Americans for the Arts and The United States Conference of Mayors' Public Leadership in the Arts Award
- · 2021 HealthCorps Lifetime Achievement Award
- $\cdot$  2021 Multiple Sclerosis Society MS Hope Award
- $\cdot$  2021 Pendleton Woods Lifetime Achievement Award
- · 2020 Sister Cities International Distinguished Leadership Award
- · 2019 NAFOA Lifetime Achievement Award
- · 2019 Oklahoma Center of Community and Justice Humanitarian Award
- · 2019 Force 50 Foundation George Nigh Lifetime Achievement Award
- · 2018 National Cowboy Museum's Annie Oakley Society's

Frank Butler Award

- · 2017 Harland C. Stonecipher Award for Entrepreneurial Vision
- · 2017 James R. Tolbert III Crystal Orchid Award
- · 2017 World Experiences Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award in Global Citizenship
- · 2017 Lee B. Brawner Lifetime Achievement Award
- · 2016 Creative Oklahoma Creativity Ambassador
- · 2016 Louis B. Russell, Jr. Memorial Award for Service to Minority and Underserved Populations
- · 2016 Helen Chupco Leadership Award
- · 2015 Harold Hamm Diabetes Center Board Member of the Year
- · 2015 Cherokee National Historical Society Stalwart Award
- · 2015 Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges Hall of Fame Inductee
- · 2015 Dialogue Institute of Oklahoma Leadership Award
- · 2015 Ada Area Chamber of Commerce Ted Savage Lifetime Achievement Award
- · 2014 Knights of Columbus John F. Kennedy Community Service Award
- · 2014 Oklahoma Academy Key Contributor Award
- · 2013 Oklahoma Israel Exchange Light, Leadership and Legacy Award
- · 2013 ASTEC Fund Door Opener Award
- · 2013 East Central University Distinguished Philanthropist Award
- · 2013 Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame Inductee
- · 2012 Citizen Energy Advocate of the Year of Award
- · 2011 Chisholm Trail Heritage Center Trail Boss Award
- · 2011 Oklahoma Health Center Foundation Treasures for Tomorrow, Outstanding In-

novative Leader

- · 2010 International Economic Development Council (IEDC) Leadership Award for Public Service
- · 2010 Oklahoma City University's Meinders School of Business Chairman's Award
- · 2009 Festival of Hope Honoree, Heartline Organization
- · 2009 Leadership Oklahoma's Distinguished Graduate
- · 2009 Board of the American Indian Exposition Indian of the Year
- · 2008 Native American Finance Officers Association Tribal Leader of the Year Award
- · 2008 Oklahoma Conference on Aging Lifetime Achievement Award
- · 2008 National Governors Association Private Citizen Award
- · 2007 Red Earth Ambassador
- · 2007 Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy Outstanding Service to Oklahoma's Children Award
- · 2007 Minority Advocate of the Year, U.S. Small Business Administration
- · 2007 Oklahoma Heritage Association "Centennial Leadership award for Preservation of State & Local History"
- · 2006 Oklahoma Mental Health Consumer Council "Humanitarian of the Year" Award
- · 2005 Awarded the "Most Honored One" and "Friend of the Court" by the Oklahoma Supreme Court
- · 2004 Oklahoma Hall of Fame Inductee
- · 2004 Jacobson Foundation Honoree Award
- · 2000 Distinguished Service Award from the Murray State College Foundation
- · 1999 Tri-County Indian Nations Community Development Corporation Leadership Award
- · 1998 Honoree, Community Literacy Center

- · 1997 Ada Chamber of Commerce Leadership Award
- 1997 City of Ada A+ Award
- · 1997 Oklahoma Governor's Arts Award
- · 1997 Distinguished Alumnus, East Central University
- · 1997 Distinguished Alumnus, National Community College Association
- 1995 Minority Advocate of the Year, U.S. Small Business Administration
  - · Who's Who in America
- · Who's Who in the South and Southwest

## Goal as Governor/Lt. Governor:

"We plan to continue pursuing our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people, as we strive to fully realize our vision to be a nation of successful and united people with a strong cultural identity.

While we have made extraordinary advances in areas from economic development to housing, health care, education, cultural revitalization, language, arts, and family services, we remain committed to working with the Chickasaw people to reach new levels of success together.

Our goal is to continue placing the needs of the Chickasaw

people first and foremost in everything we do. Therefore, we plan to continue listening to the Chickasaw people and responding to their input in a manner that serves to advance both our mission and vision as a nation.

## Name of Spouse and Children:

Wife: Janice. Son, Chris and his wife Becky, grandchildren Brendan, Eryn and Sydney. Son, Brian, grandchildren Chloe and Preslea.

## Personal Message to the Chickasaw People:

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve the Chickasaw people as we continue moving toward our shared goals of enhancing the quality of life of individual citizens and promoting a stronger sense of community among all Chickasaws. Many of those who have been involved in our shared mission for decades have personally witnessed tremendous progress and helped build a solid foundation. Those who have recently joined in our mission benefit from that solid foundation. Together, we continue to build a legacy that will inspire generations of Chickasaws to continue working to build a brighter future for our children and grandchildren."

## Please Note:

Candidates who **do not** have challengers will **not be** on the ballot. **Ballots will only be mailed to voters** in the Tishomingo District.

Candidates without challengers are: Governor Bill Anoatubby; Lt. Governor Chris Anoatubby; Connie Barker, Pickens District Seat 2; J. Lisa Impson, Pontotoc District Seat 3; Dr. Karen Goodnight, Pontotoc District Seat 4; and Cheri L. Bellefeuille-Gordon, Supreme Court Seat 3.

## Use correct procedure with ballot, envelopes to ensure inclusion



Each year, Chickasaw citizens receive mail ballots so they may cast their votes for legislative, judicial or gubernatorial candidates.

Ballots will be mailed out this year on July 6. The ballots are mailed first class to voters across the country. Ballots are due back to the tribal election commission no later than 10:30 a.m. on July 25.

Most citizens are accustomed to the mail-in ballot system and vote regularly. For newly-registered voters, there are some important things to keep in mind when casting and returning your ballot.

A voter receives his ballot in the mail along with two envelopes, which he will return with the ballot. The "inside" envelope holds the actual ballot. The voter will mark his ballot, then place it in the inside envelope and seal it. The "outside" envelope is used to transport the inside envelope and ballot back to the election commission. The voter will place his ballot – now sealed in the inside envelope – into the outside envelope, and will sign the back of the outside

envelope where indicated.

The process probably sounds more complicated than it actually is. Once you open your mailing from the election commission, it is obvious what steps must occur.

Remember that the ballot return timetable has been shortened following passage of legislation in 2007. There is a 19-day window to return your ballot, so it is best not to delay.

Please vote and return your ballot immediately!

## Name change? Call the Election Secretary!

Some of the most common mistakes voters make when marking or returning their ballots have to do with actual voter names.

Each voter has a Chickasaw citizenship form on file with the tribal Election Secretary. Vital information about the voter is contained on the form.

The Election Commission utilizes the citizenship forms to confirm that the person who

has sent in the ballot is the same as the person listed on the citizenship form.

When you sign the outside envelope as indicated, you should sign it as you have signed on your citizenship form. Election workers check the signature on the envelope to the signature on the form to be sure they match.

The most common signature problem occurs with female voters. A woman who has married

or changed her name for some other reason must make that change on her Chickasaw citizenship form. If that change is not made, and the woman signs the ballot using her new name, her ballot will not be counted because her new signature and the signature on her citizenship form do not match.

It is very simple and easy to make the proper changes to your citizenship form to ensure your ballot is counted.

Simply call the tribal Election Secretary's office and a worker will complete a new citizenship form for you. The worker will then send the new form to you via first-class mail.

All you have to do then is sign the form and send it back in the addressed and stamped envelope provided.

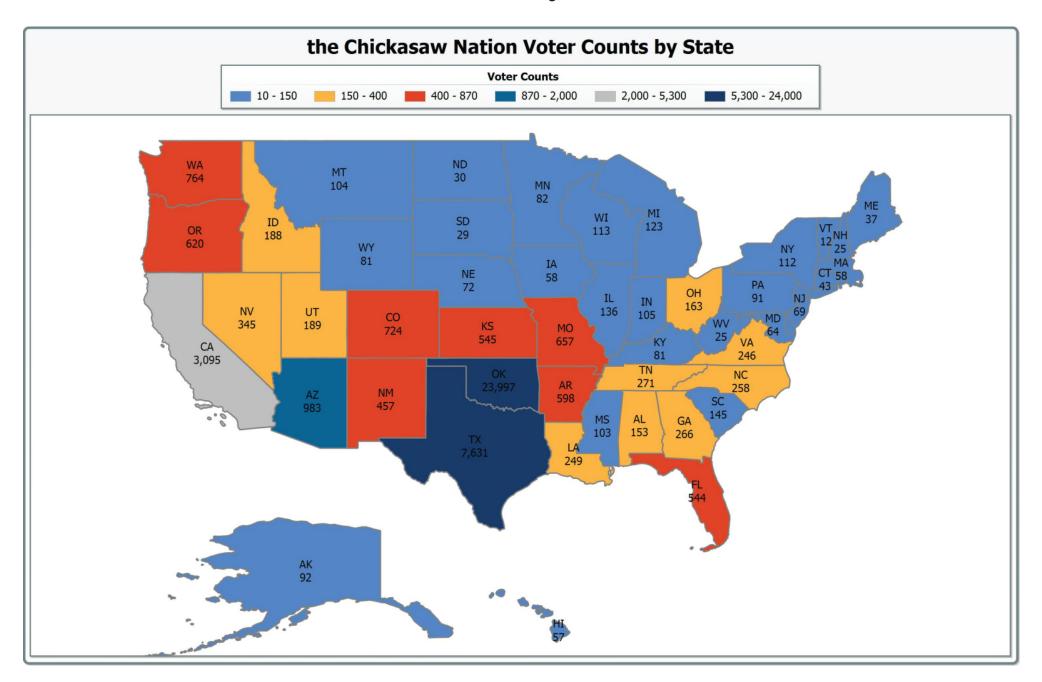
The other common problem with names involves simply for-

getting to sign the outside envelope where indicated. Ballots are discarded each year because voters neglect to sign the back of the envelope.

For help, you may call the tribal Election Secretary's office at (580) 310-6475 or toll free at 1-888-661-0137, or email rita. loder@chickasaw.net



# Chickasaw voter count by state across the U.S.



## Chickasaw voters now live in all states, several foreign countries

Did you know Chickasaw voters live in every state in the union, as well as the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth and nine foreign countries?

That's right! While the majority of Chickasaw voters continue to live in Oklahoma, we are now spread out across the country and the world.

a total of 44,971 Chickasaw voters. Of that total. 23.997 live in Oklahoma. The next most populous state is Texas, with 7,631 Chickasaw voters, and in third place was California with 3,095.

In addition to the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Chickasaw voters now reside in the countries of Austra-The most recent voter count indicated lia (2), Canada (16), Germany (7), Switzerland (1), and the United Kingdom (2). There are also a number of Chickasaws serving in the military who utilize American Post Office (APO) addresses while they serve overseas.

Wherever they live, all Chickasaw voters will receive their mail-in ballots in July. The ballots are mailed first-class from Albuquerque, N.M., July 6.

Remember to cast your ballot, sign vour outer envelope and return as soon as possible. All ballots must be received by 10:30 a.m. on July 25 to be counted.

For assistance, you may call the tribal election secretary's office at (580) 310-6475 or toll free at 1-888-661-0137, or email rita.loder@chickasaw.net

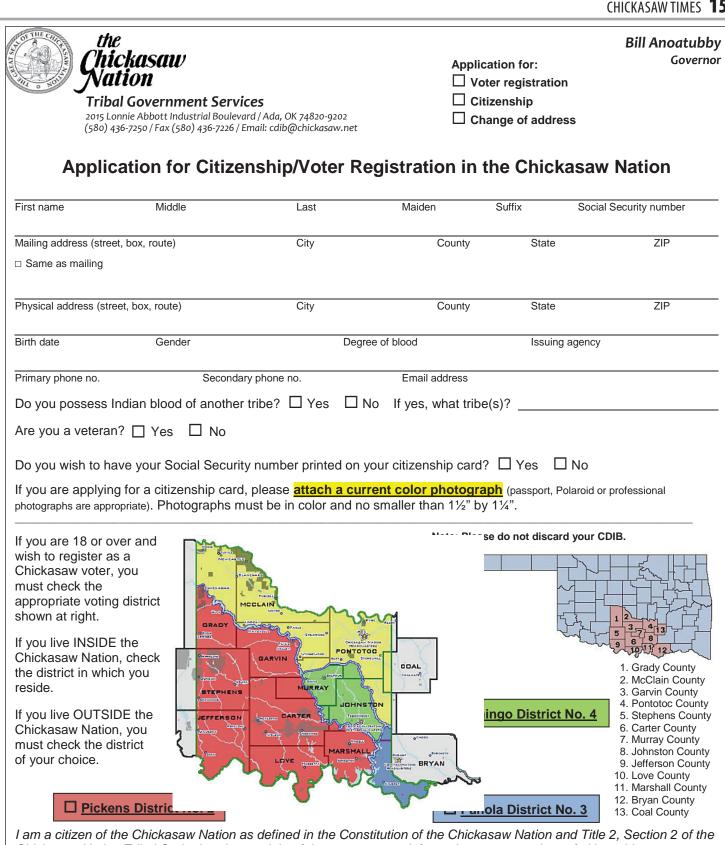
## Chickasaw Voters **Exercise Your** Right to Vote!

The Chickasaw Nation Election Commission and election secretary encourages ALL registered Chickasaws to cast their votes for the candidate of their choice. YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

As a citizen and eligible voter of the Chickasaw Nation you have the honor to cast your vote for your tribal leaders. Don't miss this opportunity to make your voice be heard. Cast your vote and return your absentee ballot in the prepaid envelope supplied in your ballot packet.

- · CAST YOUR VOTE FOR THE CANDI-DATE OF YOUR CHOICE
- · PLACE YOUR BALLOT IN THE INNER **ENVELOPE**
- · PLACE INNER ENVELOPE IN "OUT-ER" ENVELOPE
- · SIGN YOUR NAME WHERE INDICAT-ED ON "OUTER" ENVELOPE
- · PLACE YOUR BALLOT IN THE MAIL IMPORTANT NOTE: You MUST sign your name as addressed to you, or your vote will NOT BE COUNTED.

Editor's note: This special edition of the Chickasaw Times is an election issue. It contains the announcements and pictures of candidates. **Biographical sketches** personal a n d messages in this issue were submitted by the candidates.



Chickasaw Nation Tribal Code. I understand that false or erroneous information can cause loss of citizenship.

SIGN HERE $\longrightarrow$		
YOUR SIGNATURE REQUIRED		Date
(For database purposes, NO INITIALS please)		
OFFICE USE ONLY – Confirmation		
Staff initials	Identification number	Date
	Page 2 of 2	Form no. 08264 IS-SD Rev. 9/2018

## **VOTING FORMS**

#### **2023 Chickasaw Nation Primary Election**

Enclosed is your OFFICIAL MAIL BALLOT, SECRECY ENVELOPE and a self-addressed, postage paid OUTER ENVELOPE. Please read all instructions before marking your ballot. VOTING WILL BE DONE BY MAIL, WITH THE USE OF THIS OFFICIAL MAIL BALLOT. NO IN-PERSON VOTING IS PERMITTED, NOR WILL HAND DELIVERED BALLOTS BE ACCEPTED.

#### **VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

#### Please Read Carefully:

- 1. Make your selection carefully and mark your ballot by completing the oval next to your choice. Select only (1) candidate for each office
- 2. After marking your ballot, seal it in the SECRECY ENVELOPE. DO NOT MARK ON THIS ENVELOPE
- 3. To ensure confidentiality, the SECRECY ENVELOPE is removed from the OUTER ENVELOPE before ballot counting begins.

  NOTE: Should your ballot arrive without the SECRECY ENVELOPE your assurance of confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.
- 4. Seal the SECRECY ENVELOPE in the OUTER ENVELOPE, then SIGN YOUR NAME USING BLUE OR BLACK INK on the back of the OUTER ENVELOPE. SIGN YOUR NAME EXACTLY AS IT APPEARS ON THE MAILING LABEL.
- 5. If you are unable to sign the outer envelope and must make your mark instead, please have your mark witnessed by a notary public.
- 6. Mail your ballot as soon as possible. Ballots received after 10:30 a.m., July 25, 2023, will NOT be counted.
- 7. To assure a fair election, ballots will be stored in a locked, secure location

VOTER'S SIGNATURE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM A CITIZEN OF THE CHICKASAW NATION AND THAT I AM ENTITLED TO VOTE IN THE CHICKASAW NATION PRIMARY ELECTION FOR THE CANDIDATES HEREIN MARKED. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I MARKED THE ENCLOSED BALLOT IN SECRET.

SAMPLE

For voters	who	make	their	mark	instead	of	signing
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My Commission Expires

#### **SECRECY ENVELOPE**

Place your voter ballot inside this envelope and seal it. Place this envelope inside the postage paid envelope.

	Name Address City State	Zip			NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE
Sale House	□ NEW ADDRESS CHECK HERE				UNITED STATES
2021 Primary Elect Return Before July		SAM	PLE	MAU	
		BUSINES FIRST-CLASS MAIL POST/		MAIL ADA, OK	
PO BOX		CHICKASAW NAT PO BOX 695 ADA OK 74821-98	ON ELECTION COMMI	SSION	
	-ուկիսթերիակիսնիկիսկիսկիսկիսկիսկիս				illeretti

### Ballots feature 'oval' to be filled

The official mail ballot sample is illustrated below. Voters will fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate for whom they are voting.

Seal the ballot in the Secrecy Envelope. Insert the Secrecy Envelope in the Outer Envelope. Sign your name **EXACTLY** as it appears on the mailing label on the back of the Outer Envelope using blue or black ink. No postage is necessary. Mail your ballot as soon as possible to beat the 10:30 a.m., July 25 deadline.

If you have any questions regarding the ballot or the election process, please contact the Chickasaw Nation election office at (580) 310-6411 or 1-888-661-0137.



OFFICIAL MAIL BALLOT 2023 PRIMARY ELECTION CHICKASAW NATION - ADA, OKLAHOMA July 25, 2023

 $\frac{\text{INSTRUCTIONS:}}{\text{To vote complete the oval to the LEFT of your choice, like this ( } R \text{ )}.$ 

TISHOMINGO DISTRICT SEAT 3

DUSK MONETATHCHI

SAMPLE

STEVEN WOODS

SHANE LANGFORD

SAMPLE

SAMPLE