



FIG. 1 Above: Native Clothing Heritage Week

Sherman Cultural Activities

Our Cultural Program is in full swing. The various ongoing student activities and events combine: Cultural sharing/powwow night every Wednesday; art, craft, and culture after school at Bennett Hall on most weekdays; bi-weekly Daughters of Tradition meetings; Indigenous Youth Environmental Justice group meetings each month; monthly Sweat Lodge meeting; monthly women/girl talking circles; and special monthly or weekend workshops on: hand drums, rattle making, natural beauty make-over, basketry, Native plant uses, Native cooking, painting, flute making, and beading. These activities and events are organized by Cultural Program Director Lorene Sisquoc, with help from Instructor Alexis Duro.

Proverbs

A tongue has no bones, but it is strong enough to break a heart.

So be careful with your words

- Cherokee

To the mediocre, mediocrity appears great

- Anonymous

It is easy to forget kindness, but one remembers unkindness.

- Unknown Native Proverb

The warrior who rushes into battle without a plan has already lost the fight.

- Cherokee

From The Editor

In 1990 President George H. W. Bush and the United States Congress passed Public Law 101-343 designating November as American Indian Heritage Month. November was chosen by Congress because this month concludes the traditional harvest season. The bill brings public awareness to the culture and achievements of Native Americans. Since 1990 Presidential Proclamations for Native American Heritage Month have been issued by Presidents Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden. Various school-wide events and programs were held at Sherman during November involving Native Games, Native Fashion (Fig. 1), Native Foods, and Native Film Week.

As the year 2024 nears conclusion the Sherman Family wishes our readers a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season.

Click on the YouTube link below to access our library of Sherman videos. You can also view these videos by clicking on the links provided within the information box on the last page of this newsletter.





FIG. 2: Short story contest winners from left to right: K. Lewis, F. Guerrero, J. Guerrero, P. Montague, J. Bancroft, T. Tessler, S. Van Fleet, J. Chino, and D. Woodman.



FIG 3: Above Left: National Honor Society Advisor Tracy Pewo. Upper Right & Lower Right: GATE Advisors Ricci Duro and John Moreno.



NHS and GATE Programs

This year our National Honor Society (NHS) and the Gifted and Talented Educational Program (GATE) have new coordinators. Ms. Tracy Pewo is the new NHS advisor (Fig. 3). She takes over for long-time NHS advisor and recently retired Fine Arts teacher Monica Royalty. Ms. Pewo is the Principal's Secretary and a former NHS co-advisor at the Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, Oklahoma. Our 20-year-old NHS program recognizes outstanding students who excel in scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Currently we have eleven NHS students. They are: Raine Begay, Conrad Colelay, Jordan Delma, Vermeka Josay, Dewayne Lee, Julie Ortega, Romulus Pewewardy,

Tate'ota Semans, Emoni Smith, Lacey Whipple, and the current Ms. Sherman Davianna Woodman.

The GATE program provides enriching activities and curriculum to gifted students so they can develop their unique talents and study materials suited to their abilities. We have not had an active GATE program at Sherman for many years. This year Chef John Moreno of the Career Technical Education Pathways Program and Instructor Ricci Duro (Fig. 3) volunteered to re-launch our GATE program. We wish them well as they develop the foundation for this program.

Writing Competition

Our annual short story writing contest in various genres was held in November. The event was organized by Librarian C. Dominguez. Sherman students enthusiastically entered the contest to win award certificates and gift coupons and attend an award luncheon. The winners are listed below (Fig. 2). We congratulate the students that participated and urge all students to express their creativity through writing.

Horror/Suspense:

- 1st place – Fidelis Guerrero
- 2nd place – Davianna Woodman
- 3rd place – Jasmine Chino

Romance/Drama:

- 1st place – Shaun Van Fleet
- 2nd place – Juanique Bancroft

Fantasy:

- 1st place – Paisley Montague
- 2nd place – Teresa Tessler

Historical Fiction:

- 1st place – Kayllian Lewis

Comedy/Satire:

- 1st place – Joseph Guerrero

Sherman Athletics

The Lady Braves varsity and junior varsity volleyball teams completed competitive Arrowhead League seasons. The Varsity volleyball team received the league's Sportsmanship Team Award and sisters Autumn and Summer Peters were both named All-Arrowhead League.

In Cross Country the boys team finished second and the Lady Braves finished third in the Tri-County Premier League. Josiah Declay, Michael Ferrell, Rodney Palimo, Seth Red Shirt, and Brandon Dude received All-League honors. For the Lady Brave runners Candice Melton, Ayna Shadrick, and Payton Killson were selected to the All-League team. We congratulate the volleyball players and Coaches K. Schwab and P. Skeet and the cross-country runners and Coach Colley for their accomplishments this season.

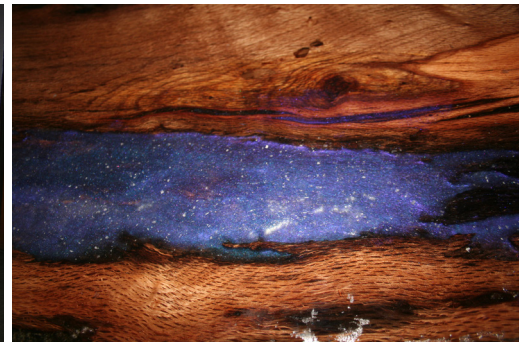


FIG 4. Above Left: Romulus and his epoxyresin table. **Above Right:** Close-up view of the table top.

Sherman's Got Talent

In this issue we spotlight talented Senior Romulus Pewewardy. Romulus is a member of the Iowa Tribe Comanche Nachea. Last year he was selected to join the National Honor Society and recently he was crowned Homecoming King for 2024. Romulus is a teaching assistant in B. Hayden's cabinet woodworking class and he is also taking an advanced construc-

tion class. Following graduation Romulus wants to attend Meridian Technology Center in Stillwater, Oklahoma and become an electrician. Romulus's woodworking talent is shown in his impressive epoxyresin table top he fashioned from an old California oak log. He spent many hours in his advanced construction class cutting, shaping, sanding, and applying epoxyresin and pigments to his creation. His finished coffee table is truly elegant and durable (Fig. 4).



FIG 5. Above Seven Photos: Students in their Halloween costumes on Halloween Day.

Witch Way to the Candy

Sherman students showed off their adventurous, creative, and eerie Halloween costumes and make-up during classes on Halloween Day (Fig. 5). Not to be left out some teachers and staff members also donned attire for the occasion (Fig. 5). Our Dormitory Staff further brought the Sherman Halloween spirit to the life by contributing dormitory exhibits and displays that conveyed the darkness and scary good times of October (Fig. 5).



FIG 6. Top Left: Twin Day at Sherman. **Top Center:** Vice Principal Matt Townsend talks to parents. **Top Right:** Homecoming Week Coordinators Alexis and Ricci Duro. **Center Left:** C. Jozlynn Rodriguez with alumni mother Elizabeth Willcuts and family. **Center Middle:** Daniel Laris and family visit L. Sisquoc at the Sherman Indian Museum. **Center Right and all Bottom Row:** Putting on the Ritz for the Homecoming Dance.

Homecoming 2024

Homecoming week is an exciting occasion for students. It is a period filled with celebration, activities, and school traditions. It is also a time when former students return to their alma maters to reminisce and to reconnect with former teachers and school mates (Fig. 6). Homecoming week was observed at Sherman from October 21 to 25. This year's theme was Masquerade. During the week student activities were held at lunch time (Fig. 6). On Friday morning visiting parents were welcomed to Sherman by Vice Principals R. Priebe and M. Townsend and Facilities Manager B. Pewo. Parents were updated on school changes and improvements (click [HERE](#) for video). Later in the morning parents mingled with teachers to discuss the educational

progress of their sons and daughters (Fig 6). At noon parents went to lunch to feast on bison ribs. The week culminated on Friday evening with an all-school Masquerade Dance at Bennett Hall (pictures, click [HERE](#) for video). During the dance the 2024 Homecoming King and Queen and their Royal Court were announced. This year's King was Romulus Pewewardy and the Queen was Kiara Molina. The Royal Court of Princesses and Princesses included: Junior Class: Melanie Paddlety and Dewayne Lee; Sophomore Class: Juanique Bancroft and Kashtin Lizotte; and Freshman Class: Charlee Hawepetoss and Deondro Uqualla. The Grand Marshalls were C. Domingues and V. Shattuck. Shout Outs go to the Homecoming organizers Instructors Alexis and Ricci Duro (Fig. 6) and their student volunteers for making this year's event very special.



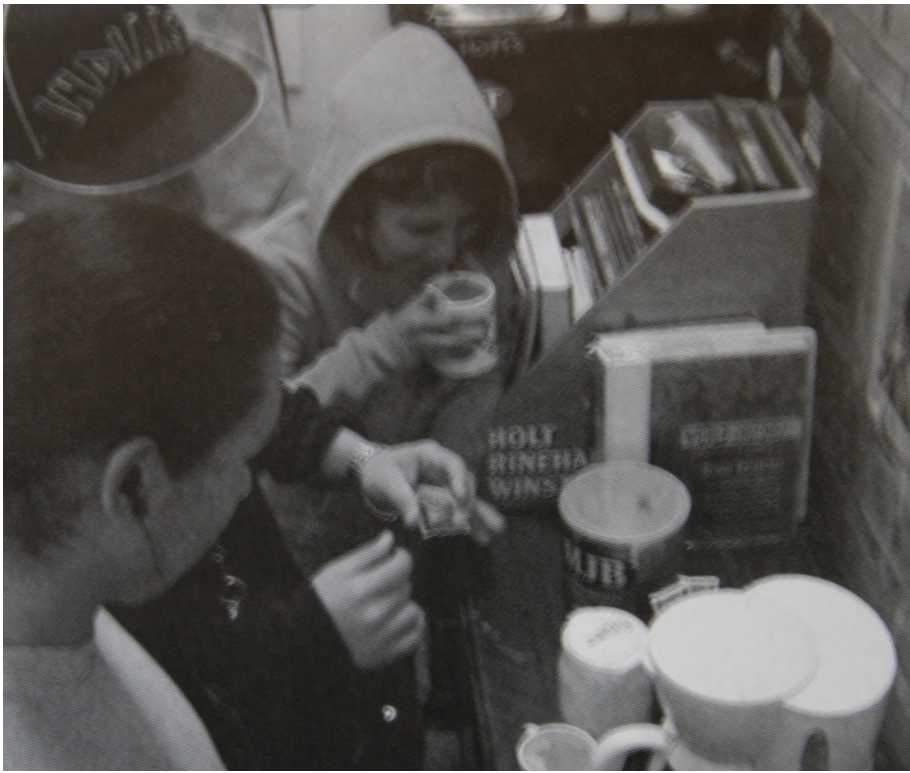
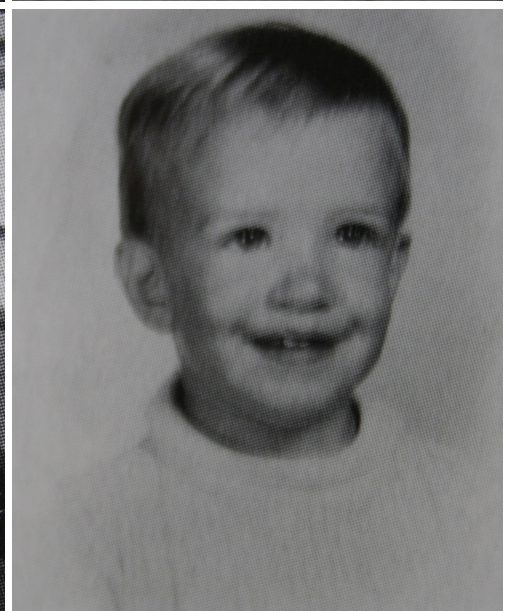
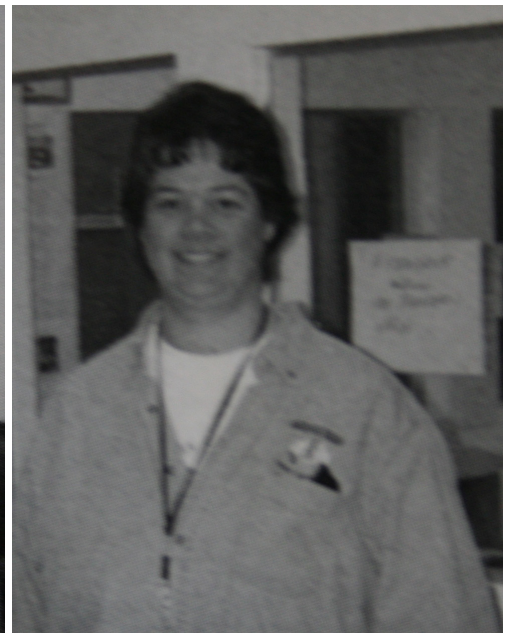


FIG 7. Above Left: Dig that coffee. Above Right: Bobby Dixon and one of his flutists at the Christmas Musical. Center Left & Right: Staff members. Bottom Left: Billy Jack Johnson. Bottom Right: Teacher photo???

From the Sherman Archives

The year was 2005. Atlantic Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Southeastern United States and caused 125 billion dollars in damage. The inflation rate for the year was 3.4% and a gallon of gasoline nationwide averaged \$2.30. Two top grossing Broadway Shows were Mamma Mia and The Lion King. The words didymo and vaccine hesitant appeared in print for the first time and the new social media and video sharing platform YouTube was launched. The number one song for 2005 was “We Belong Together” by Mariah Carey and the Emmy for outstanding comedy series went to “Everyone Loves Raymond”. In sports the New England Patriots captured their third Super Bowl Title and the Chicago White Sox finally became World Series Champions again.

At Sherman a new study policy was enacted. Students were required to study at least one hour after school in the dorms or in the academic building. The aroma of freshly brewed coffee regularly emanated from Ms. Hoff’s “Coffee House” which became a popular student hangout (Fig. 7). Over the
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year students enjoyed participating in fifteen different clubs/organizations. Staff members Dawnes Sims-Stevenson, Lorene Sisquoc, Richard Priebe, Stephanie McMorris, and Celestina Torres (Fig. 7) all had an enjoyable year. Billy Jack Johnson's (Fig. 7) Snack Bar in recreation continued to fund scholarships for Sherman graduates and employ six full-time students. In sports, Coach Colley's Cross Country Team continued to dominate the Arrow Head League competition (Fig. 10). Coaches Matt Townsend and Herschel Stevenson fourteen-member wrestling team completed a prosperous season and produced two individual league champions and six CIF qualifiers (Fig. 11). As the Holiday Season approached Bobby Dixon's music students once again performed their traditional December musical gala to the delight of Sherman students and staff (Figs. 7,8). In May fifty-one seniors filled with joy and satisfaction walked proudly across our graduation stage and into Sherman history.

FIG 8. Right: Students perform at the Christmas musical gala.



FIG 9. Left: Staff members.



FIG 10. Right: Practice makes perfect.



FIG 11. Right: The wrestling team and coaches.



THE SHERMAN TIMES
is a digital publication that is linked to YouTube and provides information on Sherman Indian High School.
WEB: [Sherman YouTube Videos](#)
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MISSION STATEMENT
The Sherman Community empowers Native students through opportunities to find their purpose at school and in life.

MIND • BODY • EMOTION • SPIRIT

Educating Native American youth since 1903