

States, and everyone has to identify with it and so to identify, the American Indian, and particularly the Cheyenne and Arapaho from Geary, Oklahoma, is very important. And I think this is the most important thing and this is what's great that you people here in Geary would recognize this. That you recognize the talent that you Indian people have here in this community and what a contribution they can make to you and to this community. You know, many places throughout the United States, Indians are thought of as tourist attractions. It's interesting thing. You hear a lot of people saying, well, you know Indians are all good with their hands, have good hand-eye coordination. Well, I'm not very good with my hands, and I consider myself an Indian. But it also indicates that perhaps Indians aren't quite as smart as they should be. So we want to break those old stereotypes that people have. You know, people have stereotypes of Oklahoma from the dust bowls in the depression days are we're overcoming those stereotypes on the national scene when we have our whole Congressional delegation with the exception of one person who is a member of Phi Beta Kappa so that people in Oklahoma are intelligent and bright and creative people. And so we can, you know, we can break down old barriers and that we can see people as they really are and what great contributions they can make. To tell you a little bit about myself and perhaps many of you don't know that I, it was mentioned, I am Comanche Indian. I was raised by my grandparents. And I think most Indian children are reared by grandparents, and this is one of the beautiful qualities of the Indian culture, that the relationship of Indian families. I have, my husband only knows his first cousins and my fourth and fifth cousins are like brothers and sisters to me. This is a beautiful thing that Indian culture has that other groups of people don't have. And the meaning of my Indian relations, of the impact they have had on my life. The most important things, really that I have,