

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



© VOLUME 15, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2011

Employee of the Year



Congratulations to our Employee of the Year,.....Jan Graham!

Jan is a Wyandotte Nation Tribal Member and began working as a payroll clerk for WTC in March 2007. She transferred to the Tribe in July 2010 as Third Building receptionist. When Jan is not at work, she enjoys sightseeing and being outdoors, listening to music and has recently learned to crochet. But, she says her favorite pastime is spending time with her family, especially her grandkids. Jan says she truly enjoys working

here and loves being a part of the "Tribal Family." Thank you Jan for all of your hard work and dedication to the Tribe. You are greatly appreciated!!

Public Notice

Notice of Annual Meeting

On September 10, 2011 the Wyandotte Nation shall hold their Annual Meeting at the Artie Nesvold Community Center at the Tribal Headquarters located on Highway 60 near Wyandotte, Oklahoma. The Annual Meeting will start at 9:00 a.m.

The Election Committee of the Wyandotte Nation has determined that there are no contested posts for elective office within the government of the Wyandotte Nation for 2011. Therefore, it is not necessary to hold an election at the Tribe's Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 10, 2011. Regular elective posts will be available September 2013.

Donna Mercer, Chairperson
Wyandotte Nation Election Committee

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia

Wyandotte Nation
Board of Directors

Billy Friend
Chief

Norman Hildebrand
Second Chief

Ramona Reid
Councilperson

Vivian Fink
Councilperson

Juanita McQuiston
Councilperson

Eric Lofland
Councilperson

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia is published quarterly for tribal members by the Wyandotte Nation at its headquarters in Wyandotte, Oklahoma. Inquiries may be addressed to:

The Wyandotte Nation
64700 E Hwy 60
Wyandotte, OK 74370
(918) 678-2297 or
(800) 256-2539
fax (918) 678-2944

(C) Copyright 2011. All information, photographs, and other materials are copyrighted, and may not be reproduced without prior written consent of the Wyandotte Nation.

Contents.....

Letter from the Chiefs	2
Family Cemetery	3
Member News	4-5
Casino News	6
Tribal Department Reports ..	7-13
Pow-Wow Flyer	14
Summer Interns	15
Services Provided	16

The Chief Says.....



Kweh,

I hope this quarter's Turtle Talk finds all doing well and enjoying their summer. This is my first opportunity to address you as Chief of the Wyandotte Nation. I would like to say thank you for your support and to let you know I consider it an honor and a privilege and am humbled to serve you in this capacity.

It has been a very busy summer here in Wyandotte with our Summer

Youth Program, youth intern work program and several projects completed and some just starting. Construction has recently begun on the addition of more senior housing units and should be completed by late fall. Our new additions at the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness center are now complete and we are looking forward to hosting our first Annual Meeting in the new gymnasium this September.

Along those lines, we would like to encourage every tribal citizen that can to attend and participate in our Annual Meeting and Culture Day Activities. Our Culture Committee has been working very hard on this year's event and has some great things in store for those who attend. For more information, visit our web-

site at www.wyandotte-nation.org.

One of the projects I have spent a lot of time on is our property in Park City, KS. We made application with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2006 to have our 10.53 acres of land taken into trust for gaming. The application was approved at the regional level and is now at the central office in Washington DC. The Tribe purchased this property in November of 1992 with P.L. 98-602 funds and at the time was told that the chances of gaming there were very slim. The tribe then refocused their efforts on Kansas City, Kansas. After over 12 years of litigation on our Kansas City property all parties have conceded the fact that the Park City property can be placed into trust for (continued on page 4)

From Normand Hildebrand -Second Chief



Kweh,

I am extremely proud and honored to have been appointed by the Board of Directors to the position of Second Chief of the Wyandotte Nation. I officially started June 1st and all the Department Heads and staff have helped make my transition into this position a smooth one. Chief Bearskin has left quite a legacy for

Chief Friend, the Department Heads, staff and I to continue for the benefit of all tribal members.

I am really enjoying working with everyone. Chief Bearskin was right when he said we have the best Board of Directors, Chief of Staff, Department Heads, and staff of any tribe in the Indian world. I traveled last week to Washington D.C. with the Chief and Kelly Walker to an I.H.S. summit, the first one ever assembled. It was quite an experience to see the Nation's Capitol; the weather was really hot but still very enjoyable.

The following Monday my wife and I accompanied Chief Friend, his wife and daughter along with Dana

Butterfield, Sherri Clemons, Kim Garcia and the summer interns on a trip to Kansas City. We visited many historical sites, let them shop, and took them to Worlds of Fun. Again it was extremely hot but everyone had a good time. We had 17 young men and young ladies and they were a joy to be with. Their parents should be proud of them which I'm sure they are because they are really good kids.

Again it is an honor to serve as Second Chief of the "Greatest Tribe in the World".

Tizameh
Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

George Washington Wright Family Cemetery

Memorial Day 2011 marked the fruition of several years work of documentation, negotiation with land owners and restoration and cleanup of the George Washington Wright Family Allotment Cemetery. George Wright and his family were among the Wyandotte people who relocated to Oklahoma from Kansas in the 1840's. A small part of Wright's allotment was used as a family cemetery. Largely forgotten, except by a few elders including my own grandmother Gladys Powell, the cemetery fell into serious disrepair. According to Lois Thomas, Wright family researcher, there are twenty burials in the cemetery. However only seven names are recorded and remembered. They are US Grant Wright, Elizabeth Wright, George Washington Wright, Catherine Wright, Rosa Luke, Sarah Clark and WH Keefover (a Civil War Veteran from G Company, 31st Ohio Infantry). Family member Mr. Jack Childers performed some of the early work on the cemetery by resetting a

fallen headstone and marking the boundaries of the cemetery.

I want to thank the Wyandotte Nation and those who helped in this important project. Chief Billy Friend and his wife were gracious enough four years ago to venture in the rough country to see the cemetery and agree to help reclaim it. Wyandotte Nation employee Ron Kaiser was instrumental in obtaining land owner permission for access and clean up. Garold Alumbaugh and the entire Wyandotte Nation Maintenance Staff spent time and effort to actually clean the cemetery. Finally I would like to thank the Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard for participating in honoring these graves on Memorial Day. As always, it's actions like this that makes me proud to be Wyandotte.

David W Culver
Gweh Rih Rooh



The Chief Says continued

(continued from page 2)
the Tribe for gaming. This is a very exciting opportunity for the Tribe; the property actually sets on I-135 on the north edge of Wichita, Kansas and has great access to the Interstate. After numerous trips to Washington DC and countless hours wading through red tape, we are getting very close now to seeing this project become a reality for the Nation and I hope by the time we meet for our

Annual Meeting we will have good news to report.

In closing, I would like to say it is a pleasure to welcome Norman Hildabrand on board as our new Second Chief. Norman was appointed by our Board of Directors to that position upon my succession to Chief after the retirement of Chief Bearskin. Norman served on our Board of Directors for several years and will do a great job serving you

as Second Chief. Also, congratulations to Eric Lofland upon his appointment to fill the vacancy on our Board of Directors. Eric and his family are lifelong residents of the Wyandotte area and he will be a great addition to our Board.

“Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.” Romans 15:33

Chief Friend

Member News

Science Achievement Award



“Rachel Marie Wright, member of the Wyandotte Nation, received the Science Achievement Award for the “Top Science Student of Wyandotte Middle School 2011” on May 17, 2011. She was unable to attend the evening awards assembly that day but was presented and SURPRISED with this award the next day at the end of class by her science teacher, Mr. Rumpfle. Rachel is 13 years old and in the 7th grade. She is a member of the NJHS at the middle school, 3rd chair trumpet in the 7th grade band, plays basketball and runs track for the Wyandotte Bears. In track she has

earned several individual medals for both 1600m and the 800m during her 6th and 7th grade years. We are VERY proud of Rachel and her academic achievements as well as the leadership roles she takes on at home, at church and at school. She is growing into a very kind and genuine young lady. Rachel is a very special person and friend to many. Her parents are Tracy and Rebecca Wright, Sara-sister, JT-brother of Wyandotte, OK. Grandparents; Tracy Wright of Billings, MO. and Sherri & David Clark of Broken Arrow, OK. Great-Grandparents; Gertrude Wright and the late Tracy Wright Sr. of Miami, OK.

New Employees



Candace Hamilton recently joined the staff at Bearskin Wellness & Fitness Center as a front desk attendant. Candace is a Wyandotte Tribal member and has participated in the summer youth programs. When Candace is not at work she loves to be outside-going to the lake, fishing, camping, and hunting. She also loves all sports and enjoys spending time with her family. Welcome to the team Candace!



Levi Griffin will serve as the new project coordinator in our housing department. He comes to us from Joplin, Missouri and is a Wyandotte Tribal member. Levi brings over 18 years of construction and maintenance experience. When he is not working, Levi enjoys to travel, ride his Harley Davidson motorcycle and spend time with his family. Welcome to the team Levi! We are glad to have you as part of the Wyandotte family!

Birth Announcement

Orion Bear Phillips was born May 04, 2011 at 2:07a.m. weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. and measuring 19 1/2 inches long. His parents are Sara Smotherman and Eric Phillips of Spicewood, TX. His grandparents are Brenda and Dennis Smotherman of Grove, OK, and Willa and Mike Phillips of Sequim, WA. His great grandma is Jan-nie Lou Smotherman of Owasso, OK.



Harris Family Reunion

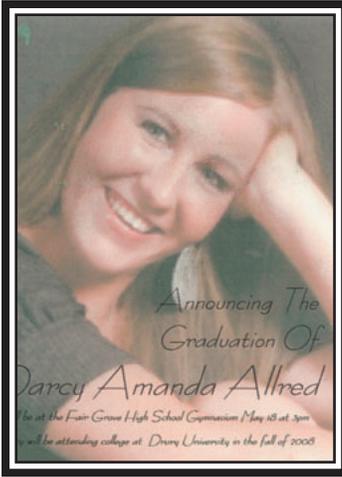
Hi everyone. Due to cost and booking problem, our Reunion will not be at Twin Bridges Park this year.

Instead, after the Annual Meeting we will meet at the Pow-Wow grounds, south of the parking lot. So bring a dessert, a chair, camera, pictures and stories to share. See you there!

Ramona L. Reed
918-678-4803
PO Box 1
Wyandotte, OK 74370
rrynndotte@tds.net

Member News continued

Studying Abroad



To the Wyandotte Nation:

I was incredibly fortunate enough to take the collegiate opportunity to study abroad in London last semester. The Wyandotte Tribe has greatly helped take some of the financial burden away from the expensive cost of being a college student. I'd like to express my gratitude to the Wyandotte Nation for making my college less expensive and less stressful.

I'm going into my senior year double majoring in English and writing, with Global Studies Minor at Drury University in Springfield, MO. Every semester, Drury allows Students the option of studying abroad in various countries. The architecture program requires the departments' students to study abroad in order to obtain a degree. Less than two percent of the students in the United States study abroad every year, so I'm not exaggerating when I say how incredibly fortunate I was to be part of that percentage. Drury is in collaboration with London's Regent College. A few fun facts-Nelson Mandela's grandson and Steve Buscemi's niece attended the school. It is located inside of London's eight Royal Parks. Famous British celebrities such as Jude Law, Evan McGregor, and Ricky Gravois have been spotted regularly strolling in the same park Regents College is located.

Most students attend Regents for the business program, but the school offered many classes exploring the Arts. I took Civilization and the Arts, Contemporary Art in London, Poetry and Literacy. All of these classes emphasized going outside of the classroom and into the beautiful culture of London. We visited art galleries, museums, and historical landmarks such as the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, and Trafalgar Square. American Students were not encouraged to take classes on Fridays in order to give us more time to travel in Europe. Over the course of the semester I traveled to Florence, Rome, and Venice in Italy, Dublin, Ireland, Amsterdam, Holland, and Copenhagen, Denmark. The cities were by far the most diverse places I have ever been-allowing me to discover and understand different cultures in any of the biggest metropolitan cities in the world. My travels overseas is an experience I hope I can repeat and others can take the opportunity to enjoy as well.

Darcy A. Allred

10 year Service Award



Carolyn Nesvold was recently recognized for her dedication of ten years of service with the Wyandotte Nation. Carolyn was originally hired as the Coordinator, Special Health Programs and was later transferred to Pharmacy Technician. Carolyn is a Wyandotte Tribal

member and says "she is honored to give back to her tribe." We are very fortunate to have Carolyn and thank her for her many years of service.

Congratulations!



Valari Eby and James Richards were united in marriage on Saturday, May 21, 2011. The wedding was held at the Community Chapel Church in Joplin, Missouri. The couple are planning a honeymoon in Hawaii in the fall. Congratulations and best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. James Richards.

Roll #1635

Each edition of the tribal newsletter will include a Roll Number. The lucky tribal member will receive a tribal t-shirt mailed to them. Contact Kim Garcia at 918-678-2297 ext. 217 to claim your prize.

Casino News



It has been a busy quarter for Lucky Turtle Casino, as we celebrated the Lucky Turtle's 7th Anniversary! We had some amazing responses to some great promotions. Players can't wait to see what is coming next.

The months ahead look very bright for the Lucky Turtle with a bass boat giveaway, a \$5,000 kiosk promotion, and a spectacular television giveaway, just in time for football season.

As always, we would like to say thank you to the amazing Lucky Turtle employees! After all, it is the employees that keep the players coming back month after month.

Stay tuned for what we have planned in the upcoming months! The Lucky Turtle Casino has some great surprise in store!

WYANDOTTE NATION CASINO

Summer may be winding down, but Wyandotte Nation Casino is hotter than ever! We have some great promotions planned for the upcoming months. With the introduction of some exciting new promotions, and bring back some old favorites, the next few months are sure to be action-packed! Plus, we are now giving our players the amazing benefit of trading their Club Wyandotte points for gas at the Turtle Stop Convenience Store. With rising gas prices, this new reward is sure to catch the attention of our loyal players, and give us a leg up in this highly competitive market.

As always, the steps we take forward here at Wyandotte Nation Casino could not be done without the extreme dedication and hard work from our employees. We will continue our mission to make Wyandotte Nation Casino the premier gaming location in the four state area.



It has been an exciting past few months for Twin Bridges Restaurant and Lounge. With the recent renovation to Twin Bridges kitchen, combined with a handful of holiday, VIP, and employee events, Twin Bridges is geared up for just about anything.

Twin Bridges Lounge has just begun a new season of its Wii Bowling League, which players and employees alike are both having a ball. Plus, starting in September, Twin Bridges Lounge is kicking off Pigskin Parties every Saturday for what is sure to be an exciting football season.

Campfire Concessions is getting closer each day to its complete renovation of appearance and menu! Customers are excited to see a new fresh look and a broader variety menu items. No matter what the hour, our goal is to offer quality food with a smile.

Tribal Department Reports

Bearskin Health Clinic

We encourage you to read this important information regarding Contract Health Services. This will help you understand how Contract Health Services works.

There have been a lot of misunderstandings involving the Contract Health Services. Here are some examples:

- **If you call in your emergency on an ER visit, this does not mean that your visit will be paid for.** This is only a qualification for consideration by a determination from the Contract Health Services Committee. The only cases being considered at this time are Category I or Priority I cases. If funding allows toward the end of the fiscal year, Category II & III's will be considered for payment. If your illness has persisted for days, you have the opportunity to come in to the clinic to avoid an unnecessary emergency room visit, which might not be paid for or considered a Category I case. Any family member can call in an emergency visit if you are unable to, since it has to be called in within 72 hours.
- **If you are denied, you have 30 days to appeal this decision. You cannot wait months, 1 year, or more.**
- If you choose to go on your own to a physician for services, or any other type of facility, Bearskin Contract Health Services will not be responsible for payment on your bill (including outstanding balances). In order to qualify for payment, you will need to come through this clinic and let our physician write up a referral to be submitted to our Contract Health Services to be reviewed at a committee meeting which are usually held every Tuesday. These days are subject to change occasionally.
- In order to be eligible for Contract Health Services through the Bearskin Health Clinic, you need to have a current chart here or electronic health record. If you do not, you will not be considered until you fill out the information and send it in to the clinic.

- Once you have been approved on a visit or an emergency room visit, you are required to report each and every visit ahead of the scheduled time, in order for this to be approved through the Contract Health Services committee. **Every visit must be pre-approved.** If you do not contact Bridget Burleson, Contract Health Specialist, before going to another scheduled appointment, that visit will not be paid for by our funds. This is a very strict requirement. This is to emphasize that **this is the patient's responsibility**, not the physician's office or the hospital's offices.

- If you do not have insurance, you may be required to fill out an application for alternate resources for medical assistance. It is mandatory that you apply within the month of your hospital visit, ER visit, or whatever the case may be. An application may be filled out online at www.ohca.org. These are necessary rules that we have to abide by. If you have an ER visit, and do not have health insurance, you will be required to apply the day of the ER visit. The hospitals should have information on how to do this while you are at the hospital, or you may apply online on the Oklahoma Healthcare Authority website. If you have any questions regarding these new rules, you can contact Bridget Burleson at Ext. 227.

Please read these Contract Health Services Guidelines carefully. It is very critical that you abide by these rules. I wish we did have the funds to take care of every health problem that comes across our clinic, but unfortunately, we do not.

Karen Duderstadt, Business Services Manager, Bearskin Health Clinic

BEARSKIN HEALTH CLINIC CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES

Bearskin Health Clinic Contract Health Services (CHS) is a federally funded program to assist eligible patients financially with specialized care

that is not directly available from the Bearskin Health Clinic. Other contracted facilities are Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, Integris Baptist Regional Health Center in Grove and Miami, St. John's Regional Medical Center in Joplin, Missouri, Craig General Hospital in Vinita, Wagoner Community Hospital in Wagoner, and Claremore IHS Hospital. **ASSISTANCE DEPENDS ON ELIGIBILITY, RESIDENCE, MEDICAL PRIORITIES, ALTERNATE RESOURCES, AND AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING.**

The Bearskin Health Clinic CHS program also contracts with specialty care physicians, hospitals, diagnostic groups and other health care providers to treat our patients at prearranged fees.

The Contract Health Service Program is funded yearly with federal funds by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Not all referrals for specialty care can be paid for by Bearskin Health Clinic Contract Health Services, because the funding they receive cannot accommodate every need of every patient. Medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR BEARSKIN HEALTH CLINIC CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES:

1. Must be eligible for direct patient care services provided by Bearskin Health Clinic contracted facilities and/or an IHS facility. An individual is eligible if they are of Indian descent and a member of the Wyandotte Nation or Eastern Shawnee Tribe.
2. Non-Indians may be eligible in these situations: A non-Indian woman who is pregnant with an eligible Indian's child through pregnancy and postpartum; A non-Indian member of an eligible Indian's household who resides within the CHS service area is eligible for CHS if the Medical Officer in charge (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page)
determines that services are necessary to control a public health hazard or an acute infectious disease. Patient must reside within the Bearskin Health Clinic 12 county CHS service area.

3. Out-Of-State residents are not eligible for CHS funds.

4. You must use all other resources to pay for your medical care, such as Medicare, Medicaid, VA, Worker's Comp, Title 19, Sooner Care, automobile insurance, and/or group health insurance, including IHS facilities when applicable.

5. CHS IS A PAYER OF LAST RESORT!

The priority system helps patients have equal opportunity for specialty services and to make sure the funds are used to give the best possible benefits.

When services are not available at Bearskin Health Clinic and contracted facilities or at an IHS facility where the patient regularly receives care, a physician will initiate a referral to a contract specialty provider.

Contract Health Services Specialist at the Bearskin Health Clinic prepares all referrals to submit weekly for the CHS Review Committee. The Review Committee meets every week. They have an average of 20 cases on a weekly basis. Referrals from the Bearskin Health Clinic are reviewed and categorized in accordance with approved Bearskin Health Clinic CHS medical priorities.

If your referral is denied, the patient and/or provider has 30 days from the date of the denial letter is received to appeal for reconsideration. Appeal should be made in writing and mailed to: Attn: Appeals Review Board, Bearskin Health Clinic, One Turtle Drive, Wyandotte, OK 74370.

EMERGENCY CALL-IN PROCEDURES:

Call-ins are to be reported to the Bearskin Health Clinic in Wyandotte, Oklahoma (918) 678-2282 Ext. 227.

This call should be made when a patient has an emergency and is unable to go to the nearest Bearskin Health Clinic contracted facility or IHS facility. The patient must call the CHS office within 72 hours after the beginning of the treatment (**THIS DOES NOT GUARANTEE PAYMENT UNTIL IT IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE CHS REVIEW COMMITTEE!**)

REFERRAL STEPS ARE:

1. Nurse/Provider will direct your referral to the Contract Health Services office.

2. Contract Health Services Specialist will counsel with you regarding eligibility, alternate resources such as Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, VA, Workman's Comp, Sooner Care, and Title 19, and schedules the appointment if necessary.

3. Patient will need a referral from Bearskin Health Clinic for **each additional procedures, tests, follow-up exams, and or hospitalization. This is the patient's responsibility to contact the CHS Specialist each and every time!**

4. **If a patient schedules or reschedules an appointment without proper CHS authorization, the patient will be responsible for payment!**

5. Get to know your CHS Specialist at the Bearskin Health Clinic to help with any scheduling and questions regarding Contract Health Services.

Further clarification and/or additional information concerning CHS may be obtained from the Contract Health Services Specialist, Bridget Burleson at 918-678-2282, Ext. 227.

Bearskin Health Clinic Rules for Pregnancies

We are beginning to experience a few problems on different issues involving our OB patients. I hope that these pointers will help clarify a few issues we are experiencing:

- Once a patient is sent out to an OB physician, she will need to notify Bridget, in Contract Health of any type of

tests that will need to be performed once she is under the OB physician's care. This would include ultrasounds, any x-rays, CT scans, for example.

- Once the baby is born, it will be the mother's responsibility to inform the clinic medical records of the birth. We need to establish a chart in the system, as soon as possible after the birth of the baby. This information has to be in our system, in order for our Contract Health Department to pay on the 'baby' bill when we receive it.

- Also, after the baby is born, it is required that you apply at your tribal office for the baby's tribal membership. The baby will be seen in the clinic under the mother's membership, until it has been established within your tribal enrollment office.

- An application for a new social security number will also be required as soon as possible after the birth of the baby. This is for information needed in our software system, in order to report data to Indian Health Service for their reporting requirements.

- The mother's follow-up visit after the birth of their baby, will be covered at her OB/GYN physician's office.

- The two week follow-up visit for the newborn baby, will need to be here at Bearskin Health Clinic. If patient wants to take their newborn to a pediatrician, that request will be sent to the Contract Health Services Review Committee for prior approval or authorization. If not notified before the visit, the visit will not be covered.

- As in all bills concerning Contract Health Services, it is the patient's or parent's responsibility to turn them in to the CHS office or Bridget for payment, upon receipt of the bill. On occasion, the hospital sends the bills directly to the patient. The bill cannot be paid without turning the bill or claim into our CHS office. This does not happen all the time, but please make sure to turn in all bills or claims.

- If you have to go to the ER, for any (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page)
reason, during your pregnancy, you still have to abide by the 72 hour call in period. The same guidelines will apply during this time period. This will be taken through the Contract Health Services Review Committee.

- We will work with you on where you want to go for your pregnancy, such as hospital providers and OB physicians, that are covered under your insurance plan. If you do not have insurance, you will be sent to our contracted physicians and hospital facilities. Currently, we use Integris Miami and Grove facilities, Freeman Health Systems, and St. John's in Joplin, and their affiliated physicians.

If you are unsure of anything, while in the care of your OB physician, or during your pregnancy, please feel free to call Contact Health Services or Bridget, at 918-678-2282, Ext. 227.

THE CLINIC NEEDS YOUR INFORMATION

The Bearskin Health Clinic is having some difficulty in obtaining certain information that is required from our tribal members. Some of the information we are required to have is:

- Current ID such as Drivers License or Picture ID (this has to be scanned)
- Copy of tribal card (including babies after enrolled, or letter from tribal office until enrolled)
- Copy of Social Security card (including babies, application should be made as soon as possible after birth)
- Name change documentation such as marriage license, court orders, divorce papers (Name cannot be changed without this documentation in our system)
- Insurance Card (this has to be scanned)

This information is critical for reporting the data to Indian Health Services at the end of each fiscal year. I know it seems we are always asking for this information, but it is required not only for our tribal audits, but for the User Population Reports submitted every year.

We would appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Thank you.

Karen Duderstadt
Business Services Manager

Wyandotte Nation Environmental Department

The months of May thru July have been very busy for our department, and the warm weather brings increased activities for us. The week of May 9th – 13th was the Annual Employee Appreciation Week. Thank you to Wyandotte Nation for your support of our program and program employees.

- May 19th, Christen Lee (Environmental Director) attended an Open Dump Training which was hosted by the Cherokee Nation in Talequah. This training was very informative, and will be helpful for addressing open dump issues within the Wyandotte Nation jurisdiction.

- May 20th, Janice Wilson and Kathleen Welch participated in an Environmental Event at Miami High School. This event was hosted by the NRCS Agency and focused on the environmental habitats that are encountered by students in the Northeast Oklahoma area.

- The week of the 24th – 26th, Kathleen Welch attended the Trustee Council of Tri-State meeting in Manhattan, KS. This Council is part of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process. We also are members of the Tar Creek Trustees Council, 6TREATY, and the TCTCIT. Within these councils, the Wyandotte Nation Environmental Department continues to work with other tribes and local and Federal Agencies to ensure a healthy environment for the Wyandotte Nation and its members.

- With June, we jumped into the Wyandotte Nation Summer Program. Our Department volunteers time and resources to help teach the summer youth participants about the importance of a clean and healthy environment. On June 2nd, Christen and Jessica accompanied the 3 to 6 year olds on a field trip

to the Springfield Zoo, and on June 3rd, Kathleen accompanied the 7 to 12 year olds to the Neosho Fish Hatchery for their annual fishing derby. The week of June 20th – 23rd, our department spent 1 ½ hours each afternoon teaching the various age groups about macro invertebrates, solar energy and weather. Our Department has a summer intern, Brycen Hale. This is Brycen's 2nd year to work with us. He has been a very valuable asset to us and has worked helped out in various activities throughout our department.

Brycen will be a Senior at Fairland High School and has plans to attend OSU after graduation next spring. Thank you Brycen!



Also during this month we found time to perform our annual bio-assessment for our Water 106 Grant. This year we used Warren's Branch as a reference stream that had not been impacted by mining. In this assessment we performed macro invertebrate counts, fish counts and collected fish and sediment samples that were mailed off to an EPA certified lab, for heavy metals analysis.

Our department would like to remind (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page)



all tribal members within a 50 mile radius of two very important services that we offer free of charge. We offer free private drinking water well testing for tribal members, and a free Septic tank/system assessment for both tribal members and non tribal citizens. For more information on these services you may contact us at 918-678-2297.

Christen Lee— ext. 241

Kathleen Welch— ext. 235

Janice Wilson— ext. 245

Jessica Stoerger — ext. 252

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

This has been a busy year for the housing department. We now have eighty 80 homes in our inventory. Because of the tornado in nearby Joplin, MO, and the fact that our contractor is from Joplin, the construction of our 3 new senior duplexes has not progressed like we had hoped. However, the foundations are done and the framing is now underway. These units should be completed by the middle of October. We hope you have had the opportunity to see the new Heritage Acres housing addition located behind the tribal complex. If not, we

invite you to come visit us.

We are happy to have a new employee on the housing team. Levi Griffin joined us as a Project Coordinator. Levi is a Tribal Member.

If you would like more information on our housing, or would like to submit an application, please contact our office. Federal income guidelines are followed.

If you live in the Indian Health Service Area, which include nine counties in Oklahoma, and are in need of water or sanitation services, please contact our office for an application.

We look forward to serving you.

Kathy DeWeese-Housing Director

Valari Richards- Housing Specialist

Paul Paquin-Project Coordinator

Levi Griffin-Project Coordinator

Don Graham-Residential Maintenance Technician

Wyandotte Nation Family Services, Tag and Enrollment

Kate Randall, Director

918-678-2297 X224

krandall@wyandotte-nation.org

Dana Butterfield, Tag & Enrollment

918-678-2297 X219

dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org

SUMMER/ FALL PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS & FAMILY SERVICES NEWS:

JUNE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM:

During the month of June, over 50 students from the Wyandotte Nation Turtle Tots summer youth program participated in afternoon classes held at the new and improved Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center. Fitness Staff, Environmental Staff, and Family Services Staff provided education for the youth pertaining to Wyandotte culture, local environmental concerns, and the importance of taking care of our health. The grand finale was held June 30, at the Miami Riverview Park for a picnic and a swim. Family

Services educational focus this year was regarding the history of the Pow-Wow. We talked about Pow-Wow etiquette, social and contest dancing. Special thanks goes out to our good friends and neighbors from the Eastern Shawnee Tribe. Shawn King and 3 youth from the Eastern Shawnee provided education and demonstrations on both contest and social dances. Everyone, including youth and staff, had a grand time dancing the two step (a partners dance).

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: Effective August 1, 2011, Walmart school supply gift cards will be available in the amount of \$100.00 for each enrolled Wyandotte child, preschool through the 12th grade, residing within a 200 mile radius of the tribal headquarters. Also offered again this year is the cost reimbursement program for school supplies. If you opt NOT to use a gift card you may purchase school related items at your own cost and submit the receipts, up to \$100.00 per child, to the Tribe for reimbursement. We will accept receipts dated July 1, 2011-September 30, 2011. The reimbursement program gives our parents the option of purchasing his/her children's school related supplies at the stores of their choice. Gift card receipts must be returned to the Wyandotte Nation. Failure to provide gift card receipts prohibit the future receipt of gift cards. All programs require applications. School supply applications may be requested by phone or are available on the Nation's website.

ENROLLMENT DEADLINE: The deadline for new members to submit applications for enrollment is August 15, 2011. All new members are voted on during the September 10, 2011 Annual Meeting. Prior to the annual meeting, the Enrollment Committee meet and review all potential applicants to ensure they meet the criteria for membership as defined in the Nation's Constitution. Membership cards will be issued after the Annual Meeting and (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page)
mailed out soon after.

NEW ENROLLEE BENEFIT: Enroll your child before his/her first birthday and receive a \$100.00 gift card and a baby blanket with the tribal logo. This is a Nationwide Program and we hope to encourage all of our new parents to get their infants enrolled in their first year.

SUMMER SENIOR CITIZEN ENERGY ASSISTANCE: Seniors age 62 and older are eligible to apply for \$100.00 energy assistance, beginning 7-1-11 through 9-30-11. Seniors must live within a 200-mile radius of the tribal headquarters to be eligible.

ANNOUNCEMENT ON TRIBAL TAGS: The Wyandotte Nation is now able to Tag and Title vehicles in the entire State of Oklahoma. In the past there have been 16 counties that we were unable to provide this service. Please call the office for details if you have questions. For those Tribal members who have their vehicles tagged and titled with the Tribe, please remember to include your insurance verification when mailing in your renewals. Also, when purchasing a new/new to you vehicle, please remember that the Tribal member's name MUST be on the new title at the time of purchase. The Tax Commission staff can not add or delete names.

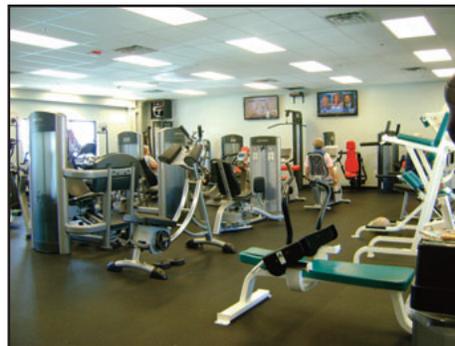
SUMMER LIHEAP/CRISIS-OKLAHOMA RESIDENTS ONLY: (as funds allow) Low Income Home Energy Program is available during summer months based on income guidelines with proof of earnings. A detailed application is required for this federally funded program.

22nd ANNUAL POW-WOW: The Family Services Staff hopes to see many of you at our Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow this year. We have asked the Great Spirit to bless us with safe travels. As Pow-Wow Committee Members, Dana and I can be found at the contest dance registration table if you miss us at the Annual Meeting.

Until we meet in September, stay cool.

Planning/Development

Construction is complete on the Wellness Center. The pictures show the pool, cardio room and weight room. The pool is open for everyone to enjoy and is also used for water aerobics and Aqua Zumba classes. We think the new expansion will have something for everyone.



We have recently applied for an Indian Community Development Block Grant. We hope to fund a Community Center near our new housing complex. If funded, the Community Center would include: housing offices, storm shelter/safe room, generator, game room and an area to host social gatherings. This is a competitive grant we apply for

once a year, and it helped fund the Wellness Center Expansion, Water Tower Project and Housing Rehabilitation.

We just received bids for the Wolf Road Storm Water Improvement. This will be located in the new housing addition north of the Tribal Complex and will improve drainage and allow for additional houses to be built.

We recently planted trees along the road to the Wellness Center and at the Pow-Wow grounds. We will be planting additional trees at the Pow-Wow grounds with the remaining funds from the Tree Grant. The additional trees will be planted along the drive into the grounds, as well as near each of the electric hookups to provide shade for campers. We have received a tree grant the last two years and it is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. The extremely HOT temperatures have made keeping the existing trees watered a challenge. Thank you to the Maintenance Department for keeping our grounds looking nice.

ELDER SERVICES

We are still receiving donated items from the National Relief Charities. In the last shipment we received a variety of vegetable and flower seeds that we gave to the elders. Since the seeds were close to their expiration date, one of the elders decided to plant numerous hills of cucumbers thinking that only part of them would come up. Well, wouldn't you know it, they all decided to sprout up. He has so many cucumbers that he is giving them to everyone that will take them here at the center, his church, and his family. We probably won't have to buy any for the salad bar the rest of the summer. We also have elders bringing in squash and tomatoes. What a blessing!

Tuesday, August 30, 2011 The Wyandotte Nation Elder Services Department will be partnering with Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging, The Lion's Club, and Eastern Shawnee Tribe Elder (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page)

Services Department. We will have health screenings and Medicare Part D open enrollment information. The Lion's Club will have their mobile health screening van available to do the following tests: Visual Acuity, Glaucoma, Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar (Diabetes), Cholesterol, Basic Pulmonary (lung) functioning, and Bone Density (Osteoporosis). The event will be here at the Wyandotte Nation Complex at the Elder Services Department. It will be held from at 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Looking forward to seeing all of you again in September at Cultural Days, Pow-Wow, and Annual Meeting.

As always it is a great pleasure to serve here at the Wyandotte Nation. If we can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Brenda House, Director, Elder Services ext. 227

Dari Ann Hunnicutt, Caregiver Specialist ext. 253

Kandi Smith, Food Service Team Supervisor ext. 228

Leesa Hibbard, Lynda Wilson, and Seth Higginbotham, Food Service Team Members ext. 228

Berle Blevins, Experience Works Pro-

gram ext. 228
Menu, ext. 226

Tribal Heritage Department

Kweh, kweh! I hope this finds everyone staying cool. The weather is even historic, being recorded as the longest heat wave in many years. I believe it! We are praying it cools down before Cultural Days and Pow-Wow. With everything scheduled, it is going to be a busy time. I hope to see lots of members here to enjoy and learn all they can during this time.

The Tribal Heritage Department has been very busy getting things ready for the week of September. In the past few months Doug Spangler, Wyandotte Employee, has visited some auctions in Michigan buying several Wyandotte artifacts for the Tribe. They were from a site in Ohio, collected by a lawyer who was a collector of Wyandotte artifacts. These are of museum quality and have not been touched by a Wyandotte in several hundred years. The collection includes tools, pipes, and a lot of stone ware dating back to the early sixteen hundreds. The feeling you get from touching them and just knowing they were made by our ancestors is a feeling of comfort. And I know they are happy

these treasures have found their way home where they belong. The artifact will be on display during Cultural Days for all to enjoy.



Education

Summer Program: The summer program is the place to be in our area for children ages 3 to 12. This program begins when our preschool and local public school go on summer break. To this point, we have had a VBS program on site, a patriotic program for 4th of July, cultural and fitness programs, several field trips, bowling outings, swim lessons and much more. We would like to thank our tribal interns for the summer of 2011. They are: Amanda Davis, Jennifer Davis, Brycen Hale, Blakely Johnson, Tyler Lawson, Trevin Merrill, Amy Qualls, Melody Penner, Tiffany Webb, Nick Wills, and Zachary Zuniga. We really appreciate the Summer Youth Program for all of the extra help that the interns provide during their time on site. We will miss them when they leave and wish them much luck as they return to school. If you have a child that might be interested in joining the fun, contact the

Education Department for more information.

Preschool: The enrollment for our Preschool Program has been overwhelming for the 2011-2012 year. As a result of this wonderful dilemma, the decision has been made to add an afternoon section of class to meet the parental requests for a place in our program. Even with the addition of the new classroom we have only five more openings in Preschool. This additional class will give us the capacity to serve up to 80 students!

Before and After School Program: Before and after school programs are on a break for the summer but will resume on August 17, 2011 when Wyandotte Public Schools resume for the school year. If you are interested in placing your child in this program, please contact the Education Department and (continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)
complete the necessary paperwork.

Library: The library has served as a cool location for our patrons to be during the extreme heat of the summer. Our computer lab has seen increased traffic as people use it for job searching and internet communications.

Child Care & Development Fund Program: The Child Care and Development Fund plan for the next two years is awaiting approval from the federal office. This grant source assists tribal members within 100 miles of our tribal offices with the expenses of child care. The CCDF also funds many of the functions of our tribal Preschool.

Tribal Scholarships: Many applications were received for the fall term of 2011 and all have been reviewed and needed items have been requested. The completed applications are ready for processing and funds will be disbursed after August 1, 2011. If you are a returning student, please make sure that you have your previous semester grades and fall schedule turned in to the office for fall 2011 funding. Reminder to

ALL scholarship participants---class schedule changes and or school changes are due no later than October 1, 2011 for the fall semester and by February 15, 2012 for the spring. Don't forget to contact the tribal office if you are considering any type of educational program to see how we may be of assistance to you.

If you have questions about any of the education programs at the Wyandotte Nation, please contact Tammy Charles at Ext. 230.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA): The WIA program is awaiting funding news for the next year. Mr. Anderson is always available to assist qualified applicants with questions or concerns about training assistance. Feel free to contact Arthur at ext. 234.

Submitted by:
Tammy R. Charles



Classes of Ms Moore and Mrs Scribner enjoyed a visit to GRDA dam, power plant and ecosystem bldg.



1st Row: Tammy Charles, Brycen Hale, Amanda Davis, Amy Qualls, 2nd Row: Landon McGarrah, Nick Wells, Trevin Merrell (Summer Staff)



Assessing the water intake pipe below.



Fireworks Finale.

22nd Annual



September 9-11, 2011

\$15,500



In Prize Money

Contests in all Categories

Friday	Grand Entries	Sunday
8:00 p.m.	Saturday	1:30 p.m.
	1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	



10th Annual Veterans Honor Program

All Veterans Welcomed



HEAD STAFF

Head Singer
 Head Man Dancer
 Head Lady Dancer
 Head Gourd Dancer
 Honor Guard
 Arena Director
 Head Judge
 Master of Ceremonies
 Wyandotte Nation Princess

Howard Cozad
 Terrance King Todome
 Tammy Mason Lux
 Murray Rhoades
 Wyandotte Honor Guard
 Dude Blalock
 Jay Blalock
 Steve Kinder
 Cortney Glass



Drum Contest

Northern & Southern

Location: Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow Grounds
5.2 miles East of Wyandotte, OK on Highway 60

Host Motels: Boone Slick
 Lodge 417-455-0888
 Super 8 Motel 417-455-
 1888

Summer Internship

Each summer the Wyandotte Nation hires Tribal youth ages 16 to 22 that are enrolled in either high school or college to work in various programs at the Tribal Headquarters. This year, 19 young Tribal citizens have worked in the Education, Maintenance, Health & Wellness, Family Services, Environmental, Law Enforcement and Elder Nutrition (Title VI) Departments, as well as, at the Long Building. These individuals provide valuable assistance to the programs while learning about the Tribe through special orientation classes provided by Tribal staff.

As part of the program the interns are offered an opportunity to take part in a trip that provides them with additional information about the Tribe's historical background and a glimpse into the culture of the Tribe before it came to Oklahoma. This year the trip was to Kansas City, Kansas, and 17 of the interns participated. Sites toured were: Huron Cemetery, Kaw Point, Quindaro Museum and Ruins, Wyandotte County Museum and the historical marker for the boundary between the Wyandottes and the Delaware in Wyandotte County, Kansas. Included in the newsletter are a few pictures from the trip.



Services Provided to Tribal Members

Service	Program Contact	Phone Number	Extension
Dental	Amanda Johnston	(918) 678-2282	257
Vision	Amanda Johnston	(918) 678-2282	257
Clinic (for appointments)	Linda Coatney or Elaine Fidler	(918) 678-2282	228
Pharmacy (Call in only)	Carolyn Nesvold	(918) 678-2282	224
Fitness Center	Kelly Walker	(918) 678-2282	259
Contract Health	Bridget Burleson	(918) 678-2282	227
Diabetes Clinic	Donna Krewson	(918) 678-2282	258
Nutrition	Brenda House	(918) 678-2297	227
Caregiver Services	Dari Ann Hunnicutt	(918) 678-2297	253
Enrollment	Dana Butterfield	(918) 678-2297	219
Tags	Dana Butterfield	(918) 678-2297	219
Housing Programs	Kathy DeWeese	(918) 678-2297	239
Student Housing Assistance	Kathy DeWeese	(918) 678-2297	239
Housing Improvements	Kathy DeWeese	(918) 678-2297	239
Well-Septic Construction	Kathy DeWeese	(918) 678-2297	239
School Supplies	Kate Randall	(918) 678-2297	224
Car Seats	Kate Randall	(918) 678-2297	224
Emergency Assistance	Kate Randall	(918) 678-2297	224
Scholarships	Tammy Charles	(918) 678-2297	230
Job Training	Arthur Anderson	(918) 678-2297	230
Preschool	Tammy Charles	(918) 678-2297	230
Library	Tammy Charles	(918) 678-2297	230
Adult Education	Tammy Charles	(918) 678-2297	230
Childcare	Tammy Charles	(918) 678-2297	230
Environmental	Christen Lee	(918) 678-2297	241
Human Resources	Deana Howard	(918) 678-2297	220
Turtle Trax Printing	Pat Wilson	(918) 678-2297	238