



The Turtle Speaks

Gyah'-Wish Atak-ia

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26th Annual Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow

PAGE 10-11

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Inside:

- Work begins on new Cultural Center
- Tribal Citizens 'Gather' together
- Tower camera to show building progress

Board of Directors

Chief..... Billy Friend
 Second Chief..... Norman Hildebrand, Jr.
 Councilperson..... Ramona Reid
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 Councilperson..... Juanita McQuiston
 Councilperson..... Eric Lofland

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Editor/Design: William Swaim



Cover Photo:
William Swaim

*Tribal Citizen
Caleb Garcia
at sunset before
Grand Entry*

Contact Us

Submit a story idea or your latest news and photos. To submit, email William Swaim at wswaim@wtok.org or call (918) 848-0724.

Looking for Elders, Veterans for Feature Stories

We are looking for tribal citizens to feature in upcoming issues, whether you live in the Oklahoma area or some far off distant land, we want to hear your story; elders and veterans especially.

Have News?

Share it

We want to hear from you! Send us news or stories you may have or suggest features for us to work on.

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From the Chief

Billy Friend

November a time to honor veterans, remember our cherished heritage

I hope this quarter's newsletter finds you and your family doing well and enjoying the beautiful fall season.

In thinking of where we are today as a tribal nation there are two dates that are important to Indians and all Americans that occur in November.

Americans, and people around the world, will remember and honor our veterans on November 11, Veterans Day. Originally called Armistice Day or Remembrance Day, November 11 was designated in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson as the day we honor our veterans. The date coincided with the Nov. 11, 1918 Armistice that ended World War I.

In November we also celebrate our culture during National American Indian Heritage Month. This recognition was established in November 2001 by President George W. Bush. In President Bush's proclamation designating November National American Indian Heritage Month, he noted that the American Founding Fathers has chosen "E Pluribus Unum" the new country's national motto. This well-known Latin phrase means "Out of Many, One."

We celebrate our Indian heritage and also honor our veterans during November.

Indian people have historically participated in the American military at much higher levels than other groups in our society. Indian warriors were, of course, a very

Indian people have historically participated in the American military at much higher levels than other groups in our society

important part of the American Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War. In the days of the American Revolution, Indian brigades were vital to the success of the new country and the established Indian nations were recognized for their significance, and their sovereign status, specifically in the U.S. Constitution.

With the outbreak of World War I and America's entrance into the war in 1917, thousands of Indians volunteered for duty. Remember, this was in the days before many Indian people were even granted citizenship in the U.S. It is estimated over 12,000 Indian soldiers served in World War I, a huge number given the very small total Indian population at that time.

Over 600 Oklahoma Indians served with the 142nd Infantry, 36th National Guard Division in France. The men saw heavy combat and were celebrated for their "enthusiasm for the battle." Four Indian men received France's highest military honor, the Croix de Guerre.

In World War II, Indians once again served in high numbers. Over 44,000 Indians out of a total

population of about 350,000 served. And this time, Indian women were serving as well.

Indian men and women served with honor in Korea and Vietnam, and it should be noted that over 90 percent of those Indian veterans were volunteers.

Our warrior tradition is an important part of our Wyandotte history, our heritage. Indian nations had to develop strong defenses in order to protect their homes, their people and their lands. The warrior culture is deeply ingrained in our people, and that quality has served our nation very well.

It is estimated there are approximately 190,000 living Indian veterans. During this Veterans Day, and this National American Indian Heritage Month, it is fitting we honor our veterans, and our cherished heritage that is such an important part of our survival, and our success.

We are rightly proud of our heritage and our history as Wyandotte's, and as Americans. Indian men and women have been highly prized in the military for their dedication, loyalty and "enthusiasm for the battle." We remember those veterans who have served, and have died. And we honor our living veterans who are a testament to service and love of country. Be sure to take the time this November to thank a veteran for their service and celebrate your Wyandotte heritage with your family.

From the Second Chief

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

Nation continues to grow, breaks ground on Cultural Center/Museum

Kweh
 This year seems to be flying by at a brisk pace. As we get older it seems to go by even faster. I'm sure some of our more experienced elders may agree with me on this.

We have accomplished a lot here at the Wyandotte Nation: two more duplexes were finished and we finally broke ground on the Cultural Center/Museum. I thought that day would never come with having to go

back and make some changes to the floor plan and design of the building to get it down to within our budget. But we did it and construction is



See **Second Chief**, Page 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2015

**FOSTERING INTER-TRIBAL
TRADITIONS**
Nov. 14

ELDERS THANKSGIVING DINNER

**Nov.
19**



PRESCHOOL THANKSGIVING DINNER

**Nov.
20**



CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

**DEC.
12**



ELDERS CHRISTMAS DINNER

**DEC.
17**



2016

**TOWN HALL MEETING
IN CALIFORNIA**

**MARCH
19**



**TOWN HALL MEETING
IN WASHINGTON**

**APRIL
16**



GATHERING OF LITTLE TURTLES

**JUNE
24-26**



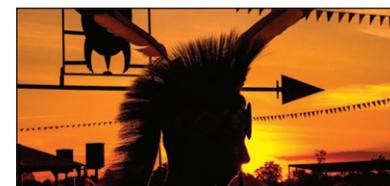
THE GATHERING

**SEPT.
7-9**



27TH ANNUAL POW-WOW

**SEPT.
9-11**



ANNUAL MEETING

**SEPT.
10**



ALL EVENTS IN WYANDOTTE, OKLA. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Second Chief

Continued from Page 2

progressing on schedule due to the beautiful weather we have been enjoying here lately.

The groundbreaking was held Sept. 11 at about 11 a.m. during The Gathering and the day before our Annual Meeting; therefore, we had many Wyandotte Nation Citizens in attendance, which made the event very special.

Next spring we should be moved into our new Cultural Center/Museum, so with that said we need the help of our Nation Citizens to donate or loan items to the museum. We will accept good copies of old photos or documents along with any old military items belonging to tribal citizens that served our country so that they may be honored for their service.

We are in the process of record-

“He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every man has need to be forgiven.”

--Thomas Fuller

ing and making videos of our elders reminiscing about their lives as Wyandottes. Whatever they want to talk about we want to record it. Juanita McQuiston is the first elder we are recording. We have had one session with her and it will take a few more to get all the stories she has to share with us. Recording all the knowledge that Juanita knows and our many other elders will be a very valuable asset to our new museum. Hearing their stories of hardships and sacrifices as young Wyandottes

growing up during the depression or wartime should make us appreciate even more what this generation had to endure in their life.

On Oct. 24, Chief Friend and I traveled with the Color Guard to the Toledo, Ohio area for the Opening Ceremony at the Fallen Timbers Battle site. The Toledo Metro Parks System and the National Park Service have established an information center and a trail leading back to the battle site. The Wyandotte Nation Color Guard had the honor of presenting the flags during the ceremony and Chief Friend did a smoking ceremony to bless this ground where all but one of our Chiefs were killed in battle. Chief Tarhe was the only Chief to survive and he was severely wounded. The battle, which covered an area of two to four square miles, probably lasted less than two hours and involved more than 3,000 individuals. This is indeed an honor

for the Wyandotte Nation and the Wyandot of Anderdon to be a part of this ceremony.

Holidays are fast approaching and I hope everyone takes the time to reflect on the many blessings we have had bestowed on us this year. The Wyandotte Nation is growing and with a growing nation you have to expect some growing pains, but with everyone's hard work and cooperation we can overcome any obstacle that may be thrown at us. We are Wyandotte. We have overcome many adversities in our history and will overcome many more, but we have to work together as a team to move forward to a bright future.

Wherever I go or whatever I do I have the pleasure of representing the Wyandotte Nation. It is the one thing that I take extreme pride in doing because the Wyandotte Nation is the best in the country and what makes it the best is all of you.



PRESERVING THE FUTURE OF OUR PAST



By WILLIAM SWAIM

TRIBE BREAKS GROUND ON NEW 7,625-SQUARE FOOT CULTURAL CENTER

Having a central place for Wyandottes to not only preserve, but learn about their history has been an idea in the works for years, and as the shovels hit and stirred up dirt Friday, Sept. 11, the idea became a reality.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Architect's rendering of the new Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center. (Top, Photo by William Swaim) The Wyandotte Nation Board of Directors and the Cultural Committee dig their shovels in to start work on the center.

The Wyandotte Nation broke ground on its new Cultural Center, located on the old Indian school site just south and west of

the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center, in front of a large crowd of tribal citizens and area media. Fittingly, this momentous

See **CULTURAL CENTER**,
Page 5

CULTURAL CENTER

Continued from Page 4

"It will give our Wyandotte citizens the opportunity to walk through our past and look to our future – all in one unforgettable experience."

-- Chief Billy Friend

event was held on Chief Leaford Bearskin's birthday. Chief Bearskin's vision for the Tribe and his dedication in making that vision a reality, pushed the Wyandotte Nation to where it is today.

"The Wyandotte Cultural Center will offer a world of opportunity to learn and connect with Wyandotte history," said Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend. "It will give our Wyandotte citizens the opportunity to walk through our past and look to our future – all in one unforgettable experience."

The 7,625-square foot Cultural Center will feature a museum, classrooms, a multipurpose room, gift shop, and Tribal Heritage Department offices. It will play host to language and arts and crafts classes as well as be



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

Cultural Committee member Deryl Wright presents a knife to Chief Billy Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand with the engravings of the chiefs on one side, and on the other side Chief Leaford Bearskin, along with Tribal Heritage Director Sherri Clemons and the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Committee -- symbolizing the past and the future of the Tribe.

the site for the annual 'Gathering,' which took place this week leading up to the 26th Annual Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow.

The \$1,687,000 project is expected to be completed in 190 days. Part of the funding for the project came from an Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) while the rest of the funding came from economic development provided by the Nation's federally-chartered corporation, Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (WTOK).

"This center will give the opportunity for our citizens to know what it is, and learn what it is to be Wyandotte. From beginning in Canada, coming through Michigan to Ohio to Kansas to here," Chief Friend

said. "To have that history in display form where we can teach it to our children, our grandchildren and to their grandchildren -- seven generations in the future will have a better knowledge of who we are than what some of us did when we were younger. It's a very momentous occasion for us today."

On hand for the ceremony were tribal citizens, the Wyandotte Nation Board of Directors, the Second Chief and the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee members as well as Thomas Boxley, the architect for the project, and Crossland Construction representative, who will handle the general contracting. Crossland Construction most recently worked on the

renovation and expansion on the Wyandotte Nation Casino project.

"It's a huge day for us. We've been waiting for this... for years," said Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee Chair Lloyd Divine. "It's going to be a nice landmark, a nice place where we can all come together. We need to take this and pass it on to our kids, so our kids will let the Wyandottes forever live on. That's what it is about."

"I like what Sherri (Clemons) said in our very first culture committee meeting, she made the little phrase, 'preserving the future of our past.' The phrase expresses the very essence of why we do what we do."

Following the groundbreaking ceremony, a special gift was presented to Chief Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand to mark the occasion and eventually be displayed at the new Cultural Center.

Cultural Committee member Deryl Wright, who is a knife maker, presented a knife with the engravings of Chief Friend and Second Chief Hildebrand on one side, and on the other side, Chief Leaford Bearskin, Tribal Heritage Director Sherri Clemons and the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee.

The Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee consists of Divine, David Culver, Jan Graham, Loretta Combes, Debbie Dry, Marilyn Young, and Wright.

Wright said it honors the past while also looking at the future, adding that he hoped the knife would represent this day and this time for everyone.



'The Gathering' brings Wyandottes together

Tribal citizens travel from across the U.S. to attend event

By **LLOYD DIVINE**

CULTURAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

The 2015 Gathering again united Wyandotte citizens from all over the United States. Participants came from Texas, Michigan, California, Ohio, Arkansas, Idaho, Missouri, Kansas, and of course Oklahoma. A handful of other States were represented, and too we were honored to have citizens join our three day event from the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation, and the Wyandot Nation of Kansas.

One of the most anticipated highlights of the year is to see old friends and meet new ones. On Wednesday evening after feasting on Red's BBQ, everyone was comfortably full as we sat, talked, and told stories as Wyandotte family gathered around a fire pit. Our ancestors undoubtedly told stories; however, I doubt they sat under a gazebo with a finely crafted and welded fire pit holding the logs. The stories told of butterflies and flying squirrels brought both tears and laughter. If a full day's agenda on Thursday did not necessitate everyone needing to get a little sleep, we could have easily stayed till wee hours of the morning telling the wonderful stories. Well maybe not. The mosquitos crashed our time of storytelling and they were hungry little fellows. Next year we plan to break out the traditional Wyandotte tiki torches to better ensure our time spent together is spent all to ourselves.

Dr. John Steckley invigorated our time of learning Wandat just as he did with our kids during the Gathering of Little



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
(Above) Several tribal citizens try out soap making and enjoy stories from tribal citizen and World War II veteran Richard Yungans. (Right) Dr. John Steckley gets Wyandottes fired up about useful Wyandotte words during the language sessions of The Gathering.

Turtles last June. Everyone enjoyed learning Wandat words as he wrapped them within the telling of tradition and why relationships were so important for our ancestors. Throughout the coming year look for Dr. Steckley to continue our language study with postings on our website. A full curriculum is being developed to teach the basics, and a lot more, all the way to advanced grammar and word study for Wandat enthusiasts.

Finger weaving, beading, and traditional soap making dominated much of the participant's time during the Gathering. One of the most anticipated events, second only to meeting old friends and making new friends, is our time with traditional crafts. Loretta Combes led the team of instruc-

tors as the intricate details of finger weaving was taught to over 40 participants. You know everyone is having a great time when no one wants to stop weaving even to eat. Loretta and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand (a master finger weaver himself) were amazed and taught a new weaving style they had been trying to figure out on their own. By mistake a participant had developed his own weaving style and it was noticed by Loretta. It happened to be the style being sought; therefore, the participant taught Loretta and Second Chief

his wonderful mistake.

In the middle of the finger weaving Kim Garcia taught beading to an additional 40 participants. Over the years Kim has secured a loyal following of groupies, or I guess we should say student beaders. Kim's work is amazing and her teaching abilities are no less amazing.

See **Gathering**, Page 5



Gathering

Continued from Page 6

In honor of the selfless and dedicated work Kim volunteers year after year to the culture committee she was bestowed Culture Honor Person of the Year. Kim was given a wonderful Pendleton Blanket on Thursday afternoon in front of the assembled participants. Again, the culture committee would like to thank Kim Garcia for her selfless and dedicated work to her fellow citizens.

Another 25 participants were taught by Pat Manley how to make traditional soap. The bars of soap looked more like candy, a colorfully swirled fudge with a nasty aftertaste. No I did not try a bite. The bars of soap are works of art that will be sad to watch go down the drain. The artistic bars of soap can be appreciated and admired for several weeks as they cure.

Seeing everyone come together in September is an amazing time for the culture committee. The smiles, laughter, and suggestions of what is liked and disliked are always considered to make next year's event even better. Next year look forward to even more time to work on your crafts. As you look forward to next year come with anticipation of seeing and gathering for the Gathering in our new Cultural Center. Ground was broken on Friday morning Sept. 11 with a large crowd witnessing the amazing event. As dirt was turned with a shovel the excitement of what was happening was inspirational. Several participants, finally seeing the reality of what was happening, pledged to bring with them to next year's Gathering artifacts to donate to the museum.

Next year come and bring an artifact to donate! You will not want to miss seeing the excitement of holding the Gathering in our very own cultural center and museum. It's going to be a great time.

See you there!

A good time to gather..



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

The Wyandotte Nation hosted its annual Gathering Wednesday, Sept. 9 to Friday Sept. 11. Events and activities for the 100-plus tribal citizens who attended included soap making (pictured below), beading (middle right), and finger weaving (top right) as well as language classes (above), and a look at the Wyandottes history regarding food, shelter and clothing. The Cultural Committee also honored Kim Garcia (pictured below) for her selfless and dedicated work. On Friday morning, four tribal citizens (Josh Garcia, Caleb Garcia, Kim Garcia and Emilee Wills, pictured bottom right) were also honored with their Wyandotte names from Chief Billy Friend.



To see more photos from the
The Gathering, visit our
Facebook page and 'Like' us.



www.facebook.com/WyandotteNation



Culver honored at Annual Meeting

WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

The Wyandotte Nation held its Annual Meeting Saturday morning, Sept. 12, at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center. Chief Billy Friend discussed the State of the Nation at the event while also honoring Carla Culver (pictured left with Second Chief Norman Hildebrand) as the 'Honored Person' for the year. Culver was instrumental in developing the education program and preschool that remains one of the best in the U.S. today.



www.wtok.org



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

WTOK CEO recognized for years of service

Chief Billy Friend presented Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (WTOK) CEO Kelly Carpino with a gift at the Annual Meeting for her years of service and for helping grow the Tribe's economic development.

In recent years, WTOK, which is the Nation's federally-chartered corporation, has expanded and continued to diversify its business portfolio.

WTOK opened a SONIC Drive-In in Seneca, Mo.; the first Native American tribe to do so. In the past year, WTOK opened another Turtle Stop Convenience Store and gas station in Grove, Okla., and started a new technology company, Wyandotte Technologies.

WTOK's 8a businesses were also awarded new contracts in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Folsom, Calif. in 2015.

The Wyandotte Nation Casino also successfully completed a major renovation and expansion project to better compete in a saturated market, and 7th Street Casino continues to flourish in the Kansas City market. The Wyandotte Nation Casino is also looking to start phase 3 of its project, which would include a hotel.



Newly installed camera will capture Cultural Center construction

Wyandotte Technologies recently installed a High Resolution PTZ camera near the top of the 100ft tower located near WT's office.

The camera will be utilized currently for time lapse recording of the Cultural Center construction project.



In the future, WT will be using the camera for weather updates, tribal area still shots and video, and overall security of the tribal grounds.

There will be a live camera feed from the tower available on the WT website:

www.wyandottetech.com soon as well as a link to the time lapse recording of the Cultural Center construction. Updates from the camera will also be posted to the WT Facebook page.

WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
Wyandotte Technologies' Jimmy Smith installs the tower camera. The camera will be used for weather updates as well as other area shots.

Looking for Elders, Veterans, others for Feature Stories

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2016 Town Hall Meetings set for California, Washington

In 2016 the Wyandotte Nation will hold two Town Hall meetings. The first will be held in the Los Angeles, Calif. area and will be Saturday, March 19. An exact site hasn't been contracted yet, but should be soon. Watch the website and Facebook for news about this meeting. Post cards will also be mailed to those who live in this area.

We are very excited to announce that the second meeting will be held on the campus of Evergreen State College in their Longhouse! Evergreen is located near Olympia, Wash. This meeting will be held Saturday, April 16. Additional information will be posted to the website, Facebook and mailed via post cards to

those who live in the area.

We are expecting large turnouts for both meetings so we will be asking that everyone who plans to attend a meeting to register in advance so we will be prepared.

The postcards will give instructions on the registration process. If you don't receive a post card, but feel you are within traveling distance and would like to attend either of the meetings you are welcome to do so.

We just ask that you register in advance.

If you have any questions regarding either meeting please contact Dana Butterfield at (918) 678-6319 or dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org.



WNTPD hosts National Night Out Aug. 4

WILLIAM SWAIM/
WYANDOTTE NATION
The Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police Department hosted the annual National Night Out Tuesday evening, Aug. 4, at the Bearskin Fitness Center after the weather forced the event indoors. It was an opportunity for the community to come together and visit with neighbors and local law enforcement to form stronger partnerships. The evening events featured fun activities, burgers, hot dogs, refreshments, prize drawings and music by Resonation.



Chief Friend among AARP honorees

-- EXCERPT FROM JOPLIN GLOBE

Six members of Indian tribes in Northeast Oklahoma were honored recently by the AARP at an event in Oklahoma City.

Wyandotte Chief Billy Friend, Cherokee tribal member Pamela Jumper Thurman, Quapaw tribal member Henry McNeer Ellick, Peoria tribal member Annette Black, Miami tribal member James Battese and Eastern Shawnee tribal member Norma Kraus were recognized at the seventh annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors.

In all, 50 people from 30 Oklahoma tribes and nations were honored.

AARP cited Friend's effort to help expand health, social services and educational opportunities for the Wyandotte Nation as well as the Tribe's creating an event for tribal children, "Gathering of the Little Turtles," and is building a cultural center that will include a museum and classrooms.

26th Annual Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow



The Wyandotte Nation held the 26th Annual Pow-Wow Friday through Sunday, Sept. 12-14, at the Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow Grounds. The Pow-Wow featured Tribal Citizen Josh Garcia (pictured above at sunset before Grand Entry, and left with David Culver) entering the arena for the first time and competing in the Men's Grass Dance. The Head Dancer was Tony Wahweotten, the Head Lady Dancer was Frankee Cunningham, the Head Gourd Dancer was Ira Kaulay, the Head Singer was Yellow Hammer and the Northern Drum was the Redland Singers.

Photos
by
William
Swaim





To see more photos from the annual Pow-Wow, visit our Facebook page and 'Like' us.



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CITIZEN & COMMUNITY NEWS

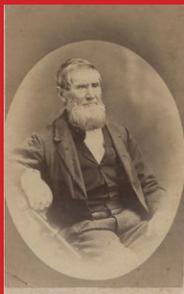
Robitaille Family History Research Project

Searching for personal recollections and copies of old photographs of your Robitaille ancestors...

My name is Paul Robitaille and I am the U.S. representative of the Robitaille Family Association in Ancienne Lorette, Quebec, near Quebec City. I have been writing history papers on Robitaille ancestors who were born in Quebec and migrated to the United States in the 1700s and 1800s. As you may know, a branch of the Robitaille family became part of Wyandotte Nation when "Robert" Robitaille married Elizabeth Zane in Ohio. "Robert", (which is the name Jean Robitaille used when he moved to the U.S), and Elizabeth had two sons; Robert Grant, who's photo is above, and James, (who later went by Jean Jacques Robitaille). My current research project is to document the history of this branch of the Robitaille family. I have gathered a great deal of information to date, and some photographs, of the family. With this data I have prepared a family tree and sent a copy to the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee, along with copies of some early photographs of several family members which I found in my research. My plan is write this family's history over the winter and share it with Wyandotte Nation at next year's gathering.

Your personal recollections and memories of these ancestors and any old photographs you may be willing to share will greatly enrich this family history. With the photographs, please take a good quality picture of the original photograph and send me the copy along with the approximate date of the original photo, the name of the individual(s) in the photo, and your name so I can give credit to you as the source of the photo in my paper. The final version of the family history and family tree will be shared with Wyandotte Nation and the following organizations: Oklahoma, Kansas, and Ohio Historical Societies. It will also be printed in the Robitaille Family Association Newsletter. The Culture Committee has my contact information. Thank you for your participation in this project!

- Paul Robitaille



Wright sweeps Tulsa State Fair buckle series

SUBMITTED BY
THE WRIGHT FAMILY

Rachel Wright, whose Wyandotte name is Tasihkwa a ute'hke, which means 'little horse,' swept the Buckle Series at the Tulsa State Fair horse show Oct. 3 -- a rare feat. Rachel is a senior at Wyandotte High School and a member of the Wyandotte FFA officer team. She has received the Equine Science Proficiency Award in FFA each year since 8th grade.

Wright has competed locally, as well as at the state and regional level. In August 2013 she competed regionally thanks to the Wyandotte Nation, who sponsored her trip to Louisiana where she received 5th overall in the Southwest region of the United States at the 4H/FFA Regional Finals Horse Show.

At the Tulsa State Fair, she entered the 4H/FFA horse show in barrel racing, pole bending and stakes racing, receiving first in each event and the champion buckle in each event. She was accompanied by her very best friend with 4 hooves and a tail, Hoss, an American quarter horse gelding. Hoss is registered as PS MIGHTY BARS BOY out of MIGHTY BARS and THREE BARS.

Wright has not had lessons, does not attend barrel clinics, and hasn't had a horse trainer. She is and has always been the sole horse lover, the trainer, the nutritionist, the vet, the stall hand, etc., for this horse as well as the family's eight other horses.

Hoss has become everything he is because of this tiny 5 foot, 100 pound little girl. There have been



COURTESY PHOTOS

(LEFT) Tribal Citizen Rachel Wright with her three buckles won at the Tulsa State Fair.

(BELOW) The Wright family was out in full force to support Rachel during her competitions.



lots of tears of joy and frustration along the way.

Rachel is the daughter of Tracy and Rebecca Wright, the big sister to Sara and JT, all of Wyandotte Okla. She is the granddaughter of Tracy Wright of Grove, Okla., David and Sherri Clark of Broken Arrow, Okla., and Bill and the late Nickey Bigheart of Miami, Okla. Great granddaughter of the late Tracy Sr and Gertrude Wright of Miami, Okla., Virginia and

the late John Morgan of Commerce, Okla., the Morgan and Addington families of Nowata, Okla., who are of Cherokee and Delaware decent, and of the late Ed and Juanita Bigheart of Pawhuska, Okla. Rachel is also the great-great granddaughter of Wash and Grace Bigheart of Grayhorse on her mother's side.

We would like to congratulate her and honor her for her hard work and success.

Ronald L. Elliott | Chula Vista, Calif. | Jan. 12, 1938 - April 11, 2015

Ronald "Slick" Elliott was born January 12, 1938 to Richard and Dona Elliott. He was the oldest sibling of 6 children. At an early age the family moved to rural Wyandotte, OK where he attended a country school before attending Wyandotte High School where he graduated.

Upon graduation Ronnie enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After his

first term he left the Navy for a brief time to attend Missouri Southern College in Joplin, MO. Ronnie later re-enlisted in the Navy where he stayed until he had full retirement.

He married Guadencia S. on May 31, 1998, she survives. Family members surviving are three stepchildren Maria, Diana, and Vincent all living in California. Siblings surviving include one brother David Elliott

of Stockton, CA and two sisters, Brenda Gray of Seneca, MO and Shirley Couch of Tahlequah, OK.

Ronnie was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Donald "Porky" Elliott and Wayne Elliott.

Funeral services were held in Chula Vista, CA with full military honors held at Miramer National Cemetery in San Diego, CA.

Submit your News: Submit a story idea or your latest news and photos. To submit, email William Swaim at wswaim@wtok.org or call (918) 848-0724. Or mail to: The Wyandotte Nation, 64700 E Hwy 60, Wyandotte, OK 74370, ATTN: TurtleTalk

CITIZEN & COMMUNITY NEWS

Scholarship opens up opportunity for learning experience

Submitted by **Bill Elliott**

Hello, Wyandotte Nation!

As a recipient of the Wyandotte Nation master's level scholarship program I recently got the opportunity to go to Thailand for a public health conference. It was outstanding and I feel I really got a better feel for what public health, my chosen field of study, is all about.

The conference lasted three days and I had the opportunity to stay a few extra days. As Thailand is known as the 'land of smiles' my wife and I had a great time visiting the many temples and Buddhist sites in the vicinity. Every household has its own mini-temple as well, as they believe that all places have spirits already living at every location, spirits of the land, spirits of the animals and the spirits of

previous human occupants. So, if someone wants to build a house on a site they also build a little temple-house off to one side so the spirits who were there first will also have a place to live and therefore be partners rather than adversaries.

I feel public health is a much needed field of study in our Native communities as Native Americans are often at a higher risk for many health related issues including diseases such as diabetes and hypertension to poor lifestyle choices ranging from domestic violence, alcoholism and suicide prevalence.



Public health professionals not only study these trends but are uniquely equipped to offer solutions as to how decision makers can help in offering answers to these health care needs and interventions. It offers answers to questions such as how people can make better choices and choose better, healthier, lifestyles. Public health practitioners also do research and collect data so that decision makers who will make decisions that will affect other people's lives will be science based.

The conference had a global public health theme with speakers from all over the world speaking on health issues that potentially affect us all, everything from food poisonings in Sri Lanka due to poor sanitation practices to the need for better water supplies in South Africa to help improve people's health there.

As the saying goes, 'think globally and act locally.' My cousin Kenneth Brumbaugh up in Washington State (he's gone now) was a great friend and a great man in general. He once told me this analogy,

"A man had a plugged stove pipe, he did everything he could think of to unplug it without success so he finally called in a professional. The stove pipe man looked at the pipe for a minute or so, tapped on it a few times with his knuckles then proceeded to get a hammer of his toolkit and struck the pipe just so, releasing a cloud of ashes into the stove and fixing it once and for all.

He then turned to the man and said, 'That'll be a hundred dollars.' The man, who had watched the whole affair that hadn't taken five minutes, protested and demanded an itemized account for the high price. 'That's no problem,' replied the professional, 'the price is one dollar for the hammer blow and ninety-nine for knowing where to hit it.'"

This illustrates public health pretty well I think. Thanks to the Tribe for their generosity and for all the other help they've given me as well.

Fostering Inter-Tribal Traditions

A Tribal Foster Family Recruitment Event

Saturday, November 14

All are invited to come and hear what it means to be a foster parent from people who have experienced first hand what it is like to provide a home and a family to a child in need.



Location: Bearskin Fitness Center Wyandotte, OK

Registration:
9:00

Meeting:
9:30 - 11:00

FREE Lunch & Childcare Provided
Give Aways & Door Prizes
Please RSVP to Tara Gragg @
918-678-6355

EasternShawneeTribe • MiamiNation • ModocTribe • OttawaTribe
PeoriaTribe • QuapawTribe • SenecaTribe • ShawneeTribe • WyandotteNation

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Human Resources

-- Submitted by Deana Howard,
HR Director



Baldwin

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department is very happy to welcome tribal citizen Catherine (Abby) Baldwin as a Substitute Teacher's Assistant. Abby is currently attending her senior year of high school at Wyandotte where she is a member

of the school choir. Abby enjoys reading, singing, participating in plays and spending time with friends at Upward Bound in her spare time. We are very fortunate to have Abby on our team.

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department would like to welcome back Amy White.

Amy previously worked as an after school teacher's assistant while attending Wyandotte High School and is currently pursuing her degree at NEO A&M College. Amy will utilize her childcare experience and education as a full-time teacher's assistant. She loves outdoor activities including hunting, fishing, and mud-ding in her spare time. Her favorite times are spent with close family and friends. Welcome back Amy!

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department is very happy to welcome tribal member Brittany



Simpson

Simpson as an afterschool Teacher's Assistant. We first welcomed Brittany as a summer youth employee and were fortunate to bring her on as a permanent employee. Brittany is currently attending her junior year of high school at Wyandotte where she participates in high

school band playing the baritone saxophone. Brittany loves spending time with her family and friends and watching Tim Burton movies. We

are excited to have Brittany on our team and wish her much luck in her position.

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department is very happy to welcome Cassandra White. Cassandra will serve in capacity of Early Childhood Teacher's Assistant. Casandra enjoys being a part of the education and development with children. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends especially her nieces and nephew. She also enjoys arts and crafts and likes to travel and explore. We are very fortunate to have Cassandra on our team and wish her much success in her new position.



Cassandra White

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department is very happy to welcome Julie Hamilton as an Early Childhood Food Service Cook. Julie comes to us with over 6 years of food service experience and enjoys working with children. She enjoys singing, reading, and roller skating in her spare time. Julie also enjoys spending time with

her family, attending church, going out to eat, shopping, and watching movies with her daughters Courtney and Candace. Some of her favorite times are spent with her granddaughter. We are very fortunate to have Julie on our team and her the best of luck in her position.

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department is very happy to welcome tribal member Lindsay Cooper. Lindsay will serve in the capacity of Early Childhood Teacher's Assistant. Lindsay has three years of experience working with children and is excited for this new opportunity. She enjoys spending time with her family and attending her children's ballgames and participating in Pow-Wows with



Cooper

her daughter. We are very fortunate to have Lindsay on our team and wish her much success in her new position.

The Elder Services Department is very happy to welcome tribal member Neoma Roark. Neoma is a substitute on-call Food Service Team Member. Neoma in her spare time enjoys beading, reading, camping and traveling. She enjoys spending time with her spouse, grandkids, and children. She is a current Senior Turtles Gift Shop Volunteer and enjoys spending time with the elders. We are very happy to have Neoma on our Title VI team.

The Bearskin Fitness Center is very happy to welcome Payton Rawlins. Payton will serve as the Fitness Center Youth Program Assistant. Payton is currently attending Crowder College. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with family, and watching sports. He also enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing. We are very fortunate to have Payton on our team and wish him much success in his new position.



Roark



Rawlins

meeting attendance. The beautiful weather and contest dancers at the Pow-Wow was the highlight of our year here at the Nation. Moving forward, family services staff have the following announcements to make for this next quarter.

The continuing programs are offered to all members in the four state area as of Oct. 1, 2015: Senior Citizen Winter Energy assistance; Elders Assistance; Hardship or Medical Fuel Vouchers; Children' Winter Clothing; Extra School Expense/or Extra Curricular Activities Program; Junior/Senior High School Expense; Children's child safety seats; Promoting Safe & Stable Families Initiative; Nationwide Programs from Family Services include Indian Child Welfare; Burial Assistance; New Enrollee Benefit (children enrolled before their first birthday); Other Nationwide Programs from the Tribe include Higher Education and the FMS Coresource "Benny Card." This list is only a partial list of the services provided by other departments within the Wyandotte Nation as evidenced by all of the articles in this newsletter.

Please feel free to contact the family services staff with any questions regarding our tribal programs. The "back to school" program has expired until the fall of 2016. At this writing, the Wyandotte Nation is waiting to receive notice of funds from the federal government for the "LIHEAP" program. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Please contact the family services staff in December regarding LIHEAP.

Announcements: On Saturday, Nov. 14, the Wyandotte Nation is hosting the "Fostering Inter-Tribal Traditions" Conference (see flyer, page 13). All 9 Ottawa County, Oklahoma Tribes are participating. There is a crucial need for foster and adoptive homes on a nationwide level.

Grant Announcement: The Wyandotte Nation received a Domestic Violence Grant in the amount of \$233,945.00 from the Department of Justice/Office on Violence Against Women. The purpose of this 3 year grant is to provide victim's advocacy, develop awareness and provide services for domestic abuse victims. This grant not only includes victims of domestic violence but also victims of dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. We start "By Believing." Some of the outreach projects will include cultural gatherings for community and victims, a 5K run, public

Family Services

-- Submitted by Kate Randall,
Family Services Director

The signs of fall are upon us in Northeastern Oklahoma Wyandotte Territory. For those of you that reside in other parts of the country, here are some of the things we enjoy the most. The humidity leaves, the trees are spectacular, walnuts and pecan season arrives, birds migrate, and everyone is happy that lawn mowing season is over! For locals, we enjoy our outdoor fire pits, our Oklahoma and Oklahoma State Rival football teams, our Wyandotte Bears sports teams from the Wyandotte Schools, and preparation for the holidays.

This year's Pow-Wow and cultural events were well attended. Tribal enrollment is up as well as annual

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS



Wyandotte Nation Family Services Program Dates to Remember

Elder's Assistance: October 1 – September 30

Senior Energy: Winter: October 1 – March 1

Senior Energy: Summer: July 1 – September 30

School Supplies: July 1 – September 30

Extracurricular Activities: October 1 – September 30

Jr./Sr. High School Assist: October 1 – September 30

Winter Clothing: November 1 – March 1

Note: All applications must be in our office or post marked on or before the last day of the program.

Continued from Page 14

service and billboard advertisements. There will be funds available for victims such as emergency supplies, transitional housing, short term rental assistance, utility assistance and other needs identified upon an intake with the victim. The safety, confidentiality and well-being of all victims is our number one priority with the grant.

Children's Christmas Party: On Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to Noon, the Wyandotte Nation will be hosting this year's Christmas party for tribal members aged birth to 12 years. Every child will have the opportunity to get their picture taken with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and also pick out a Christmas present. There will be a fun craft for the children, along with a gift card for the parents attending, and yummy snacks for everyone. The party is a come and go, so please join us for a fun time.

Enrollment

239 new Wyandotte Nation citizens were added to the roll at the Sept.

12, 2015 Annual Meeting. A list of the new citizens can be found in the newsletter (page 20). New citizens should have all received their cards by now, but if cards haven't been received please contact a member of the Family Services staff.

The Enrollment Department is accepting applications for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Original state certified birth certificates are required, but they will be returned within 10-12 business days. The Annual Meeting is held each year on the second Saturday in September as mandated by the Wyandotte Nation Constitution. The 2016 meeting will be held Sept. 10.

To be eligible for enrollment with the Wyandotte Nation an individual must be able to trace to a biological ancestor on a Wyandotte Nation roll dating from 1881 to current and not be an enrolled member/citizen of another federally recognized tribe. To obtain an application please contact a staff member of the Enrollment/Family Services Department.

The deadline for applications to be received and be considered for the current year enrollment is Aug. 15.

Tribal Tags

Wyandotte Nation citizens who reside in the state of Oklahoma are eligible to title and register their motor vehicles with the Nation. Currently, the Nation is registering passenger vehicles, RV's, travel trailers and motorcycles. Handicapped plates are available for those who meet the requirements and individuals must obtain a form from the Wyandotte Nation Tax Commission to submit to their physician for completion. Citizens may be asked to provide proof of residency to be eligible for this program. Appointments are suggested, but not required.

During a recent conference that was attended by the Tax Commission staff it was learned that the state of Florida is the only state that is not recognizing tribal licenses plates. Tribal citizens from other nations have had issues with their tags while visiting the state of Florida and the tribal governments have attempted to rectify this situation with the state, but to no avail. For now, tribal citizens need to be aware that if you are visiting the state of Florida, you may want to consider taking a rental car or at least be as prepared as you can be if you stopped for a traffic violation. If you have questions regarding this issue or any tag related question please contact a member of the Tax Commission/Family Services Department.

Supplemental Health Benefit "Benny Card"

The Supplemental Health Benefit has been renewed for 2016. Over the past two years this program has paid out over 8 million dollars for health/medical expenses. This has been a great benefit for tribal citizens nationwide. Tribal citizens should receive quarterly statements from CoreSource with account balances or can be checked through the on-line portal. However, citizens can contact CoreSource or Family Services staff to obtain this information.

Funds can be used to pay for health care needs not met by insurance or if no insurance is available. As a reminder, the Benny card can't be used for over the counter medicines such as pain relievers and cold/flu remedies or insurance premiums. Your Benny card can be swiped at any facility that accepts MasterCard AND has an IRS approved inventory control system in place (most medical facilities and businesses with pharmacies such as Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, etc.). Citizens can also pay for medical expenses up front and submit a claim form to CoreSource along

with receipts for reimbursement. Citizens have until Feb. 28, 2016 to file claims for 2015 funds.

If you have questions about this benefit you can contact any of the Family Services staff or CoreSource directly at (800) 990-9058 x42086.

Planning/ Development

-- Submitted by Ron Kaiser, Senior Advisor

There are two, Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) projects that are being implemented. These projects are funded in part by Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Culture Center project had been modified so re-advertisement for construction bids will yield pricing, within budget. The bid opening was on July 31, 2015. The project was awarded to Crossland Construction. Ground breaking began on Sept 11, 2015. Much of the site preparation has been accomplished; earth work for building pad, concrete footing has been poured and underground rough plumbing is in progress.

This project provides expansion to the Ardie Nesvold Community Center Title 6 Building to include an activity room that will function as safe room. The Carla Culver Education Center will have a new activity room functioning as "Gross Motor Skills" classroom and will be a FEMA compliant safe room. This project has been advertised for construction Bids were also opened July 31, 2015. The July date did not receive 3 bids and has been rebid. The bids were opened and this project was also awarded to Crossland. This project is also underway with mobilization to begin Oct. 12.

We are working tribal properties for different projects; ranging for stocking fish in a pond on 230 track, protecting potential historic features, Brush-Hogging Several properties to maintain pasture quality, cleaning/ updating two houses that tribe recently purchased.

There are 3 pending Fee to Trust applications with the Miami agency, the Arrowhead Building, Heritage Acres, and Catherine Crotzer Tract 1.

Preparing a modified fee to trust application for Park City.

Goal for this fiscal year is to have 3 additional applications submitted.

Department Contacts:
Ron Kaiser, Planning Director, (918) 678-6325
Robby Graham, Land Management Technician, (918) 678-6357

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Housing

-- Submitted by **Kathy DeWeese**,
Housing Director

It is hard to believe that summer is over. The Splashpad has been winterized and equipment stored. With a new season upon us, we are excited about changes coming to the park area. New equipment will be added to the park. A pavilion and a basketball court are also in the works. If the weather hold, this will be happening soon, and by next spring the park will be the most popular place in the Wyandotte community.

Down payment assistance is now being offered to qualifying tribal applicants. The applicant must be able to obtain a loan from an approved vendor and the home must be in Ottawa County. These funds are limited to the first ten qualifying applicants.

All our applications are now online. Those include Rental/homeownership, home improvement, the down payment assistance, and well and septic. If you are interested in housing or any of the other programs, please send in your application with the proper attachments. Incomplete applications will be returned.

The Community Center is open daily from 8 am - 4:30 pm. Pool tables, ping pong table, and air hockey are available for use. The cost of renting the center is \$50 for tribal member, and \$75 for non-tribal, with a \$25 cleaning deposit. The dates for 2016 are already beginning to fill. If you are interested in renting, contact the housing office. We

look forward to hearing from you.

Department Contacts:
Kathy DeWeese- Housing Director
Valari Richards- Housing Specialist
Don Graham- Residential Maintenance Technician
Levi Griffin-Project Coordinator
Paul Parker- Project Coordinator

Environmental

-- Submitted by **Christen Lee**,
Environmental Director

Happy Fall y'all!!!!
Wow, where has summer gone to? On Aug. 8, Christen and Janice had a booth at the Wildcat Glades Audubon Water Festival and provided information about the importance of water quality and how it is affected thru out the watershed.

The third week of August found Christen traveling to the National Tribal Lands Forum in Minneapolis, MN. That was also the week of the Ottawa County Fair, and our department shared a booth space with various other tribes and the LEAD Agency. This gives the tribal Environmental Departments and LEAD Agency a chance to get environmental information and issues out to the surrounding communities.

On Friday, Aug. 21, Janice Wilson participated with a department booth at the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Water Festival.

Students from Wyandotte and Fairland, Oklahoma schools attended



the festival and learned many issues dealing with water quality.

September is always busy starting with Cultural Week and the Powwow during the week of Sept. 8-13. Each year our department provides the food vendors at the powwow with hand washing and sanitizing packets.

Sept. 10, Janice Wilson Attended the Spring River WRAPS Mtg. which is held on a monthly basis at Baxter Springs, KS.

The week of Sept. 14-17, our department held a tire and e-waste collection at the Lost Creek Recycle Center, with a total of 29 tires collected during this event, and trailer full of e-waste.

On the 16th, Kathleen Welch attended a Risk Assessment Training in Tahlequah, OK at the Cherokee Nation.

On the 17th we hosted our 4th Rain Barrel Education Class at the Bearskin Fitness Center Tornado shelter. We have had very good tribal and community participation at these classes, and we plan on having more come next spring.

On Sept. 21-23, Janice Wilson attended a Region 6 EPA Water Quality Training, hosted by the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Okla. The following week of Sept. 28 thru Oct. 1, found Kathleen Welch traveling to Oklahoma City for a HUD Environmental Review Training.

Sept. 29-30, Christen Lee, Janice Wilson and Jon Quick attended the 17th Annual Tar Creek Conference at Miami, Okla. The Tar Creek Conference addresses various environmental issues within Ottawa County, and has a wide variety of speakers and presenters.

On Tuesday the 29th, Janice

Wilson gave a presentation on "The State of Tribal Water Quality," and on Wednesday the 30th, Christen Lee gave a presentation on "Non-Point source and "The Rain Barrel Project." If you have never attended one of the conferences, I highly recommend you attend the event next year.

Our department continues to monitor the local waters within the Wyandotte Nation jurisdiction on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis.

Services provided:

--Private Water Well Tests
--Septic Assessments
--Recycling Center

Meetings attended:

--TECO – Kathy
--Tar Creek Conference Planning Meetings – Christen

Department Contacts

Christen Lee – 918-678-6341
Janice Wilson – 918-678-6345
Kathleen Welch – 918-678-6335
Jon Quick – 918-678-6352
Lost Creek Recycle Center – 918-678-4001
Scott Mills – 918-678-6386



ATTENTION: VETERANS!

Date: November 9, 2015

Time: 1000am to 200pm

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center is hosting:

Tulsa Vet Center, DAV Chapter #50, and VA Indian Health Liaison

Will be available to help Veterans with Claims/Enrollment & Benefits/Readjustment Issues.

Call 918.453.5693 if you have any questions!

Location:

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center

1 Turtle Drive

Wyandotte, OK 74370



TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Elder Services

-- Submitted by **Brenda House**,
Elder Services Director

It was so good to see everyone again at the Cultural Events. I hope everyone enjoyed the "Hog Fry" lunch after the Annual Meeting.



COURTESY PHOTO

Food Service Team Supervisor (Stephanie Eads) and one of our Food Service Team Members (Seth Higginbotham) dancing at the Picnic in the Park event

We recently held our Annual Diabetes/Medicare Part D Health Fair. We had a really nice turnout again this year.

Recently, we partnered with the Quapaw, Eastern Shawnee, Peoria and Ottawa Tribes, Good Shepherd Hospice and Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging to hold our 5th Annual Picnic in the Park at the beautiful Twin Bridges State Park. Duke Mason sang his wonderful Elvis songs. The Elders did the chicken dance, the train and line danced. We had over 380 participants. We would like to thank the Wyandotte Nation Casino and the Turtle Stop for their contributions for some of the door prizes.

We are so excited to see our Safe / Multi-Purpose Rooms under construction. They should be complete in January. It should be a nice relief this spring when the clouds turn dark and the tornado alerts go off

that we will have somewhere safe and close to go. We can also use these rooms for meetings, exercise classes and games.

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held Nov. 19, 2015. We will have our usual traditional turkey and dressing with all the sides. It will be once again a sit down dinner with staff and volunteers serving the Elders.

Our Annual Christmas Dinner will be held Dec. 17, 2015. We will have brisket and all the sides. This will also be a sit down dinner with staff and volunteers serving the Elders. We will have homemade candy and goodies for all participants.

Our music parties are still the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Come out and play with us!

Caregiver

The Caregiver Support Group meets the first Thursday of each month in the Education/ Environmental conference room at 10:30 am. It is open to all Caregivers. Please contact Brenda for information.

As always it is a pleasure serving the Wyandotte Nation Tribal Citizens. Please feel free to call or come by and visit us anytime.

Department Contacts:

Brenda House, Elder Services Director, (918) 678-6327.
Stephanie Eads, Food Service Team Supervisor, (918) 678-6328
Seth Higginbotham, Rebecca Barnard, Teresa Wilson, Food Service Team Members (918) 678-6328
Menu, (918) 678-6326

Education

--Submitted by **Tammy Charles**,
Education Director

The 2015-2016 Wyandotte Nation Preschool year began Aug. 20, 2015. We have five classrooms with 95 students enrolled in our morning and afternoon programs. The fall season brings trips to the pumpkin patch and our first party for family and friends. The Preschool Thanksgiving Dinner is scheduled for Nov. 20 at Bearskin Fitness Gymnasium. We will be attending a Christmas play



COURTESY PHOTO

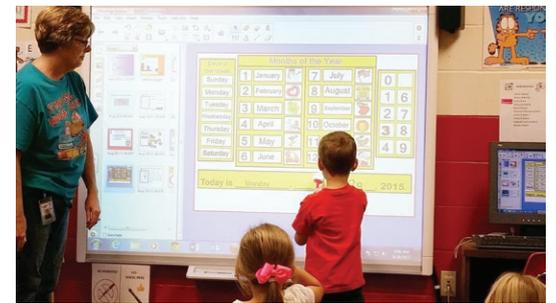
Loretta Combes receives an award from James Henry ACF. At the National Indian Child Care Association meeting, she was recognized for her work with the Wyandotte language in the early childhood program.

at Missouri Southern State University in December.

Smart boards were installed in each of the preschool classrooms prior to the school year beginning and the staff are utilizing them in a variety of ways to educate the children using technology. It is great to see the children recognize their name and move it to the correct location to "check in" for their class. The jump start on introducing technology is just another way the Wyandotte Nation Preschool helps prepare our students for the future. Currently, there are openings in the afternoon program if you or someone you know might be interested, please contact the office.

The child care and development fund program is entering a very exciting time as the federal plan is being revised and the needs of the grantees are being addressed on a new level. At the National Indian Child Care Association meeting, Loretta Combes was recognized for her work with the Wyandotte language in the early childhood program.

The tribal scholarship program welcomed several new recipients to the list for the fall semester of 2015 and beyond. We have students in undergraduate, masters, vocational and dual credit earning programs as they begin to develop skills for the future. The undergraduate scholarship is renewable for up to 8 semesters for a maximum of \$2,250 based on enrolled hours. The master's program is renewable for up to 4 semesters for \$1,500.



COURTESY PHOTO

A child uses the smart board. Smart boards were installed in each of the preschool classrooms.

Vocational funding varies based on student and program requirements. The assistance that is available for dual credit earning students will offset vocational supplies and college fees while still in high school. Please contact the office with questions or for documents. A reminder to all current recipients, to renew funding for subsequent semesters, you must submit an official or unofficial transcript.

The Tribal Library has started the year with story time and workshops for patrons. The iPad basics workshops were well attended. Coming events include stress reduction time during the noon hour and a promotion for "Rock the Mocs" week in November. An order of new materials will be completed soon. If you have items you would like for us to look into purchasing, please contact the staff.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Important Numbers

Police Department

Ken Murphy (918) 678-3100x12
kmurphy@wntpd.com

Tribal Social Worker

Tara Gragg (918) 678-6355
tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org

Enrollment / Tags

Dana Butterfield (918) 678-6319
dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org

School Supplies / Emergency Assistance / Car Seats

Kate Randall (918) 678-6324
krandall@wyandotte-nation.org

Nutrition & Caregiver Services

Brenda House (918) 678-6327
bhouse@wyandotte-nation.org

Human Resources

Deana Howard (918) 678-6320
dhoward@wyandotte-nation.org

Education / Library / Child Care

Tammy Charles (918) 678-6330
tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org

Environmental

Christen Lee (918) 678-6341
clee@wyandotte-nation.org

Historical

Sherrri Clemons (918) 678-6344
sclemons@wyandotte-nation.org

Planning / Development

Ron Kaiser (918) 678-6325
rkaiser@wyandotte-nation.org

Housing

Kathy DeWeese (918) 678-6339
kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center

Kelly Walker (918) 678-3259
kwalker@wyandotte-nation.org

Clinic Appointments

Linda Coatney (918) 678-3228
lcoatney@wyandotte-nation.org
Elaine Fidler (918) 678-3230
efidler@wyandotte-nation.org

Dental / Vision

Amanda Johnston (918) 678-3221
ajohnston@wyandotte-nation.org

Pharmacy (call-in only)

(918) 678-3244

Fitness Center

Sharon Bartley (918) 678-3231
sbartley@wyandotte-nation.org

Contract Health

Bridget Burleson (918) 678-3227
bburleson@wyandotte-nation.org

Diabetes Clinic

Donna Spaulding (918) 678-3258
dspaulding@wyandotte-nation.org

14th Annual Health Fair



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
The Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center played host to the 14th Annual Health Fair and Medicare Part D/Diabetic Screening Project Monday, Sept. 15. There were health screenings, vendors, giveaways, and food. Vendors showcased some of the latest in gadgets as well as healthy food and other items.

Continued from Page 17

Workforce Investment Program is in the process of changing names to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The Wyandotte is pleased to announce that the name change doesn't greatly impact the services we currently offer. If you are a Native American citizen from the Southeast Kansas or Southwest Missouri, you may be eligible for assistance with educational endeavors.

The staff of the education program is eager to assist Tribal citizens with available resources in the areas of educational funding, child care and the tribal library.

Please contact us if we can be of service to you.

Health

--Submitted by Kelly Friend,
Director of Health Services

Dental Services

As of March 1, 2014, it became policy that all dental procedures were to be provided through Bearskin Healthcare contracted providers. By using a contracted provider of Bearskin Healthcare, this allows the patient to receive greater services for the amount of funding approved. Two funds are available through the clinic for these services.

The Wyandotte Nation govern-

ment offers citizens, 18 & older, up to \$750 per year, per availability of funds, for dental expenses in addition to the Benny card received, regardless of where you live within the United States. This money can be used without seeing the physician every three years, as funding allows. Requirements for eligibility are:

1. Patient must have a current chart on file at Bearskin Healthcare for such services. This record includes tribal membership card, insurance card (if available), social security card, driver's license and medical history form.

Continued on Page 19

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Continued from Page 18

2. Procedures and services must be completed by a Bearskin Contracted Provider. Failure to do so is subject to declination of payment for services rendered.

3. All treatments must be pre-authorized by Bearskin Healthcare. It is the patient's responsibility to verify that treatment plans have been authorized, before treatment is rendered.

4. In the event an appointment must be cancelled or rescheduled, Bearskin Healthcare should be notified. Habitual failure to show for a scheduled appointment may result in revocation of dental services for one fiscal year. Habitual is defined as failure to call or attend three consecutive appointments. For ALL appointments, appointment date and time must be called in to dental benefit coordinator at Bearskin Healthcare (918) 678-3222, prior to the appointment for approval. Failure to do so will result in declination of payment by our facility.

Services provided by Bearskin Healthcare run from the Fiscal Year cycle of Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

**Services excluded are orthodontics, whitening's and IV sedation.

The second fund available is for children and adult emergency dental, audiology and vision for both Eastern Shawnee and Wyandotte Nation citizens. All Wyandotte Nation and Eastern Shawnee tribal members, regardless of residence in the United States are eligible for emergency dental (if over the age of 18), children's dental (under the age of 18), and optometry and audiology services.

Requirements to utilize this benefit are:

1. Tribal members must be seen by a physician at Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center once every three years to maintain an updated medical record. If patient has not been seen in the clinic within the last three years, they will not be eligible for these benefits until appointment is completed. Information needed at visit includes: tribal membership card, insurance card (if available), social security card, driver's license and medical history form.

2. All appointments must have prior authorization with the providing facility. Failure to do so is subject to declination of payment for services rendered.

3. All treatments must be pre-

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center hosts Scarecrow Run



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center hosted a Scarecrow Red Ribbon Run Saturday, Oct. 10. The event was a 5K run and 1-mile walk. Proceeds from the run benefited the local D.A.R.E. program. (Pictured above left) Mike Kirk, BFC member, spoke to group on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse and how it can influence poor choices in your life. (Above right) Racers get off to a fast start.

Top Overall Male Winners

Jose Garcia	18:23	Mitchell Sellers	19:59
Caleb Cole	18:30	Chase Nelson	20:42
Colin Brennan	19:10		

Male Age Group 30 – 34

Male Age Group 1 – 14	Caleb Cole	18:30	
Michael Lawson	23:43	Austin Gould	34:45
Cason Rentfrow	25:13	Daniel Green	43:16
Samuel Lollar	26:17		

Male Age Group 35-39

Male Age Group 15 – 19	Brent Scott	25:18	
Jose Garcia	18:23	Robert Long	32:39
Colin Brennan	19:10		
Curtis Burnett	19:43		

Male age Group 20 – 24	Male Age Group 45 – 49		
Colton Raper	19:34	Gary Graham	25:58
		Todd Willard	30:14
		Matthew Roberts	33:06

Top Overall Female Winners

Jennelle Lundien	24:17
Kallie Morisset	25:16
Krista Kirk	25:53

Female Age Group 1 – 14

Jennelle Lundien	24:17
Kallie Morisset	25:16
Jessica Roberts	27:59

Female Age Group 15 – 19

Alexis Wade	26:48
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Female Age Group 20 – 24

Molly Caudill	30:35
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Female Age Group 25 – 29

Jaelyn Green	43:16
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Female Age Group 30 – 34

Jessica Homan	34:14
Megan Scott	34:51

Female Age Group 35 – 39

Laci Couch	32:45
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Female Age Group 40 – 44

Crystal McGehee	34:07
Mary Caudill	34:30
Renee Roberts	36:57

Female Age Group 45 – 49

Krista Kirk	25:53
Angela Wade	29:34
Dana Butterfield	45:24

Female Age Group 50 – 54

Kathy Mustain	29:39
Tanya Reece	29:43

authorized by Bearskin Healthcare. It is the patient's responsibility to verify that treatment plans have been authorized, before treatment is rendered.

4. In the event an appointment must be cancelled or rescheduled, Bearskin Healthcare should be notified. Habitual failure to show for a scheduled appointment may result in revocation of dental services for one fiscal year. Habitual is defined as failure to call or attend three consecutive appointments.

This source, in addition to the previous, is only available as funding allows.

Emergency adult dental consists of a limited exam, limited x-ray, re-cementation of crowns, extractions, partials

and/or dentures and wisdom teeth removal only.

Again, it is the patient's responsibility to contact the Health Services Technician or Purchased/Referred Care Coordinator and receive approval on each and every appointment or change in appointment initiated by the patient or provider for any contracted service. This includes Purchased/referred care (PRC), dental, optometry or audiology.

The guidelines are policies set at Bearskin Clinic to be able to continue to serve those outside our contract health services delivery area (CHSDA) as long as possible with selected services.

The mission of the government of

the Wyandotte Nation is to improve the quality of life for all tribal citizens. This goal is continuously the focus of services provided by Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center and is reflected upon as decisions, policies and procedures are created and updated.

Legally, Bearskin Healthcare is only required to serve those within our CHSDA. This CHSDA consists of the 12 counties in Northeast Oklahoma. Historically and currently, serving outside the CHSDA has been based on the discretion and availability of funds by Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center. These services include: Adult Dental, Optometry, Audiology and preventative services.

New Tribal Citizen Enrollment

Adams, Ky'Aila Destiny Jade
 Adams, Ky'Vaunte Jevion Richard
 Almaraz, Adiannah Lezette
 Almaraz, Gabriella Angalee
 Almaraz, Mari Abelinamaria
 Anacker, Allie Marie
 Anacker, Emma Ann
 Anacker II, Rodney Martin
 Baker, Disrael Nichole
 Barkley, Ezekiel Bruce
 Bearskin, Zaydin Leaford Lloyd
 Bounds, Maliya Renee
 Bowline, Maverick Lane
 Breaux, Uriah Theall
 Bright, Johnathon Travis
 Brumbaugh, Jacob Matthew
 Bryant, Judith Ann
 Bryant, Shaun Patrick
 Bullock, Brylee Isabel
 Burton, Annabell Leigh
 Burwell, Jozelynn Jean
 Butcher, Madison Leeann
 Butcher, Tyler Wayne
 Butler, Alaynna Joy
 Campbell, Charisma Grace
 Christensen, Lillyan Eve
 Connel, Elisabeth Marie
 Connel, Jacquelin Tess
 Connel, Trenton Jackson
 Conner, Charli Ann
 Conner, Mavalee Hazel
 Cook, Jonathan Michael
 Cox, Daisy Mae
 Croy, James Elliott
 Cuevas, Austin Michael
 Cummings, Paisley Marie
 Cunningham, Beau Augustus
 Cunningham, Kori Patrick
 Davis, Kieasha Kizzy Drushana
 Davis, Lorrie Christine
 Dees, Cabela Donice
 Deshayes, Connor Brady
 Donley Hurtack, Lillyan Rose Autumn
 Doty, Lincoln Caroline
 Drake, Mackenzie Ann-Marie
 Duley, Easton Michael
 Eckelt, Amber Dawn
 Eckelt, Lindsay Nicole
 Eckelt, Taylor Dawn
 Ediger, Zane Clayton-Dean
 Eggers, Maximillian Stewart
 Ekstrand, David William
 Ekstrand, Jacob Allen
 Falon, Malahky Christopher James
 Finney, Emery Joe
 Fites, Declan Dean
 Floe, Kastle Jenae
 Foster, Raeann June
 Frey, Sterling David
 Fritts, Ashtyn Lorraine

Fulbright, Aydrick Mecktaylin Edward
 Gallup, Adalyn Grace Louise
 Gallup, Eleanor Jane
 Gallup, Elijah Mark
 Garrity, Brantley Isaac Cade
 George-Decarlo, Kasen Jacob
 Grantham, Luci Leann
 Greenhaw, Daemon Xander
 Grewe, Henry Tucker
 Griffin, Branden Vaughn
 Griner, Riley Chase
 Guy, Briar Calton Ray
 Halvorson, Joshua Cade
 Hancock, Ava Marie
 Harmon III, J Raymond
 Harmon, Lukas Charles
 Harmon, McKenzy Ruth
 Harper, Christian Michael
 Harrold, Tracy Ann
 Henson, Bentley Todd
 Hoeme, Theodore Jarrett Max
 Holcomb, Aiden Lynnon
 Holloway, Aiden Sebastian
 Holt, Jessica Danielle
 Holt, Nicholas Starlin
 Holt, Tamara Michelle
 Holt, Tonya Nicole
 Hooker, Evelyn June
 Hooker, Joseph Bearskin
 Hooker, Nathan Levi
 Howard, Nolan Marcus
 Howe, Carmen Diane
 Jackson, Kaili Alexis
 Jackson, Kamrynn Pajje
 Jackson, Oliver Duke
 Jackson, Tiana Diane
 James, Anslye Tanae
 Johnson, Kamdyn Hurst
 Johnson, Nataleigh Brooklynn
 Johnston, Margo JoAnn
 Jones, Regan Marie
 Kilpatrick, Brandon Lee
 King, Chelsea Dawn
 King, Katelyn Renee
 King, Shawn Dale
 Kurtovic, Preston Noah
 Land, Riley Eva
 Land-Bagley, Raegan Mae
 Lawrence, Ericka Elaine
 Lenhart, Sarah Pauline
 Lewis, Elaina Dee
 Ling, Arianna Victoria
 Ling, Isaiah Scott
 Long, Juliet Ashlynn
 Long, Noelle Zoe
 Maness, Christopher David
 Maness, Kyrie Aislinn
 Maness, William Eugene
 Mann, Kaileigh Diana
 Markwell, Emily Marie

Martin, Justinn Christopher
 Martin, Tylonn Jo
 Mason, Taylor Jane
 Maughan, Aubrey Anne
 McCaslin, Jasmyn Darlene
 McDonald, Austinn William Harvey
 McIntosh, Mark Raymond
 McLaughlin, Silas Joe
 Mead, Madison Faith
 Mead, Savannah Hope
 Mencl, Paisley Andrea-Elaine
 Mendoza, Oliver Curtis
 Mertens, Sadie Lynn-Marie
 Miller, Lauren Ann
 Monroe, Jack Edward
 Monroe, Kathryn Marley
 Moore, Holley Sue
 Moore, Kadie Lynn
 Moores, Alden Scott
 Nesvold, Landrie Dawn
 Nguyen, Tyler Duy
 Norton, Lillyann Marie
 Norton, Mikal James
 Owens, Lilyanna Destiny Violet
 Palmer, Josiah Daniel
 Parnell, Austin Shane
 Parnell, Teiaria Lynn Renea
 Pelletier, Shannen Paige
 Peretti, Maxtyn Benjamin Allen
 Peterson, Lindley Ann
 Pihl, Connor Lloyd
 Pihl, Kaitlyn Charlene
 Plummer, Lexi Jayne
 Prescott, Jaxson John
 Proctor, John Louis
 Proctor, Nathan Charles
 Quist, Dakota Charles
 Rash, Cyrus James
 Rice, Jaelah Raelynn
 Rice, Kaylee Joy
 Rice, Reagan Nicole
 Richards, Aaron Scott
 Richards II, Cory Ray
 Ritter, Calvin Sylvester
 Ritter, Chelsey LeAnn
 Ritter, Sadie Dawn
 Robitaille, Destiny Jeanorva
 Robitaille, Dylan Jade
 Roe, Asher Grey
 Root Jr., Michael John
 Rozo, Hudson Lee
 Sanchez, Braxton Taylor
 Sanchez, Brayden Martin
 Sanchez, Elijah Alan
 Sanchez, Mason Joseph
 Schrick, Connor Michael
 Schrick, Evan Michael
 Scott, Lincoln Christopher
 Scott, Micah Laroc
 Seabase, Brandon Devoe

Seabase, Kourtney Breann
 Shepherd, Easton Alan
 Sherry, Emma Grace
 Shockey, Cale Tucker
 Slack, Emma Marguerite
 Slayton, Kaia Jane
 Smith, Becham Robert
 Smith, Destiny Dawn Leigh
 Somerville, Cheyenne Ray
 Sowter, Dominiq Zechariah
 Spangler, Benjamin Kyle
 Stanich, Joshua Brent
 Stanich, Peyton Elizabeth
 Stanich, Terrence Brent
 Stevens, Landon Seth
 Stewart, Charles Embree
 Stewart, Cohen Embree
 Stewart, Courtney Louise
 Stewart, Emily Ann
 Stone, Teagan Saphira
 Sukstorf, Dash Ronald
 Taylor, Mason Stephen
 Terry, Maddison Ann
 Thomas, Leah Jane
 Thompson Jr., Shawn Michael
 Tipton, Logan Bennett
 Trease, Preslee Renee
 Turnbough, Kaivan Allen
 Turnbough, Karma Louise
 Turner, Jake Benjamin
 Tyler, Morgan Elizabeth
 Tyler, Riley Matthew
 Van Dam, Johanna Norene
 Vaughn, Payson Christine
 Wadino, Bentley Dean
 Wadino, Jackie Dale
 Wadino, Joel Bradley
 Wadino, William Bradley
 Waldman, Blake Nichole
 Wallace, Wyatt Richard
 Warfield, Ezra Michael
 Waters, Jaelyn Everly
 Watts, Easton Allen
 Webb, Landon Bradley
 West, Kortnee Rebecca
 Wheeler, Melodee Saige
 White, Kaison Levi
 Whitley, Amanda Chantel
 Whitley, Asia Christine
 Whitley, Ethan Michael
 Wilmoth, Avery Maree
 Wormington, Carlee Ann
 Wright, Isaiah Lee
 Wunsch, Edward Martin
 Yancey, James William
 Yancey, Jesse Ambrose Arrigo
 Yancey, Sky Cynthia
 Yancey IV, William Lowndes

239 Total New Tribal Citizens

NATIVE AMERICAN HERBAL TEA
CHIEF'S DELIGHT
 *12 TEA BAGS *NET WT. 2.1g (34mg)
 ALL NATURAL • CAFFEINE FREE

WYANDOTTE NATION

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 ONLINE-GIFT-STORE/

ONLINE GIFT STORE

Tribal items, Native made & just COOL stuff!

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