

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



Presorted Standard
POSTAGE
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Wyandotte, OK 74370

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February 2007



Casino News

Hello, our names are Kim Harnar and Jim Hunt; we are excited about the opportunity to be the new Vice President of Finance and Gaming Operations respectively, for Wyandotte Nation Casinos. Our team runs the Lucky Turtle Casino and is getting ready to open the new Wyandotte Nation Casino. We are on schedule to open the new casino early spring.

The new casino, the Wyandotte Nation Casino, is coming along nicely. Just this week the outdoor patio has been poured, and the stone work was completed in the entry way. We will have over 500 electronic games, 8 blackjack tables, and a great poker room with 5 poker tables. We will also feature great food in our two food outlets, Campfire Concessions and Twin Bridges Restaurant and Lounge.

The Wyandotte Nation Casino will be

different then other casinos in Oklahoma; we will have a state of the art player rewards system, so we will be able to recognize and offer our players invites to special events, logo merchandise, and discounted and free meals, all based on their play at our casino. Our interior will be something to be proud of: bright colors, comfortable chairs, stained glass, and great air circulation system will make the Wyandotte Nation Casino the premier casino in northeast Oklahoma. We hope to really shine in our employees and the great guest service we will be eager to share with our guests.

We are planning a special Wyandotte Nation Tribal Member event so you can tour the casino and meet some of the employees that will represent you in your new casino business. We will keep you posted on our progress.



Are you interested?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE WYANDOTTE NATION CASINO'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS PROGRAM?

We are very excited to offer Wyandotte tribal member business owners the opportunity to participate in the new Players Club Marketing program at the Wyandotte Nation Casino. If you are a business owner and would like to participate in this program that will benefit your business and the Wyandotte

Nation, please contact Erin or Marikate at 702-361-3850, or email them at jonese@marketingresults.net and milonema@marketingresults.net to receive more information about this program.

PLEASE SEND YOUR MEMBER NEWS TO:
TURTLE TALK
64700 E HWY 60
WYANDOTTE, OK 74370
OR FAX TO
(918) 678-2944

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia

Wyandotte Nation
Board of Directors
Leaford Bearskin
 Chief

Billy Friend
 Second Chief
Ramona Reid
 Councilperson
Vivian Fink
 Councilperson

Norman Hildebrand
 Councilperson

Juanita McQuiston
 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
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Contents.....

Letter from the Chiefs	2 & 3
Editorial	3
Vehicle Tag Program	4
Member News	5
Tribal Department Reports ..	6 - 8
Education Department	9 - 10
Flag Etiquette	11
Services Provided	12

The Chief Says.....



Chief Leaford Bearskin

The start of a new year is upon us. The year 2006 was good to us. When January 2008 rolls around we pray that we can make the same or better statements about our progress.

In 2006 we set the stage for bigger and better contracts with the United States government; we won legal decisions from the 10th Circuit Court and the United States Justice Department that allowed us to proceed with gaming interests that we have been planning on for several years. We set the stage for pursuing interests other than gaming that look promising to us on a long-term basis.

We're striving to diversify our

business interests so that we are not dependent on gaming as our only source of income. We are attempting to get into businesses that other Indian tribes are not concentrating on. Our reasoning is that this will enhance our chance of success in our economic development efforts.

We are striving to develop long-range plans for our Wyandotte Nation that will be affecting the welfare of our children and grandchildren far into the future. We hope and pray that the year 2007 will be as good to us as our past has been.

With all of us working together we cannot fail.

From Billy Friend - Second Chief



“The story of the Indian in America is something more than the record of the white man’s frequent aggression, broken agreements, intermittent remorse and prolonged failure. It is a record also of endurance, of survival, of adaptation and creativity in the face of overwhelming obstacles. It is a record of enormous contributions to this country---to its art and culture, to its strength and spirit, to its sense of history and its sense of purpose.

It is long past time that the

Indian policies of the Federal government began to recognize and build upon the capacities and insights of the Indian people. Both as a matter of justice and as a matter of enlightened social policy, we must begin to act on the basis of what the Indians themselves have long been telling us. The time has come to break decisively with the past and to create the conditions for a new era in which the Indian future is determined by the Indian acts and Indian decisions.”

The previous quote came not from an Indian leader or politician of late, but rather from Richard M. Nixon in an address to congress on July 8, 1970. He felt the government should back off and offer assistance to tribes who would work to solve their own

problems. This forward thinking led to the passage of Public Law 93-638 the “Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act “of 1975.

The fact is that before the Europeans arrived, Indian people governed themselves. It doesn’t matter what the governments were called: a tribe, band or pueblo. The fact is that a self-governing community was here first with a unique political framework. Some tribes were governed by a council; some by a religious authority; while others split the duties of peace and war chiefs. The point is there was a system at work in every community.

The Wyandotte Nation entered into a compact with the United States government in (continued on next page)

Editorial



Kweh Omateru,

I hope everybody had a great holiday season this past year. The season here was filled with

lots of food, fun, and parties. The Title 6 crew did a fantastic job with all the community dinners. The preschool hosted a Thanksgiving dinner that was wonderful. The children's party, put together by Family Services, was spectacular. It's always a great time to see friends and family.

Two weeks into the new year, this area was hit hard with ice, freezing rain, sleet, and snow. Many lost power and water for days. Hot food, hot showers, and even flushing the toilet became a luxury. People in the community delivered food and water, helped cut down limbs, and even opened up their homes for those neighbors in need. As the ice melted and the electricity slowly came back on, another Thanksgiving took place. It wasn't because of the newest Xbox

game under the tree but for a warm home, a hot shower, and helpful neighbors. We really do live in a great community.

Last issue, we inserted a questionnaire for cultural interests. I'd like to thank everyone that sent back the questionnaires. We had a good response. We will be making future plans for Culture Week and other cultural events based on the responses. For now, Culture Week will still be the week of May 28 through June 1 for 2007. Please plan on attending.

As always, if you have any tribal member news that you would like to share with your tribal family, please e-mail, call, or write us. I can be reached at kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org or 918-678-2297 extension 217.

Job Hotline
1-877-WYN-DOTT
(1-877-996-3688)
Announcements
Only

Second Chief continued

(continued from previous page) 1995 allowing us to take over our programs and run them ourselves. We were one of the first small tribes in the Nation to successfully enter into the "Self Determination" process. Since then we have made great strides in improving all our departmental programs. Our pre-school has been recognized by the federal government as one of the top Indian preschools in the Nation. The Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center has been emulated by many other tribes in Oklahoma and across the Nation. Our planning and development department is continually searching for more grant and

funding opportunities to enhance and expand our current programs. These things would have never come to fruition if we were not allowed to make our own decisions concerning our own people. Nixon was correct when he said it was time to usher in a new era in which the Indian future should be determined by Indian acts and Indian decisions. The Wyandotte Nation under the leadership of Chief Bearskin and the Board of Directors has exerted our right to sovereignty and has taken matters into our own hands and has created our own solutions to our own problems. We will continue to face new

sets of challenges and problems in the future. However, the destiny of our people and our Nation will not be determined by the federal government, but by we the people of the Wyandotte Nation. As always, I would like to encourage you to stop by and visit your tribal headquarters and get to know our wonderful staff. Don't ever hesitate to call if you have any questions concerning tribal programs or activities. It is a privilege for me to serve you as Second Chief and may God bless you and your family throughout the New Year.

Wyandotte Nation Vehicle Tag Program

The Wyandotte Nation Vehicle Tag Program has been an overwhelming success since its implementation in August of 1999. This program allows Tribal members to register their vehicles through the Tribe at a discounted rate, while generating much needed funds for tribal services. Funds from this program have assisted the Family Services Department with emergency funds and with the purchase of safety seats for Tribal infants and children.

Fees associated with title and registration are as follows:



Titles	\$10.00
Duplicate Titles	\$10.00
Late Penalties for Renewals	.25 / day
Late Penalties for Titling	\$5 / month
Registration	
1-4 years	\$51.00
5-8 years	\$45.00
9-12 years	\$33.00
13-15 years	\$21.00
16 years and over	9.00

In addition to title and registration fees, new and used vehicles purchased by Tribal members will be assessed an Excise tax. Excise taxes are based on the year and the base invoice price of the vehicle and is guaranteed to be at least 40% less than what the State of Oklahoma would charge for the same vehicle.

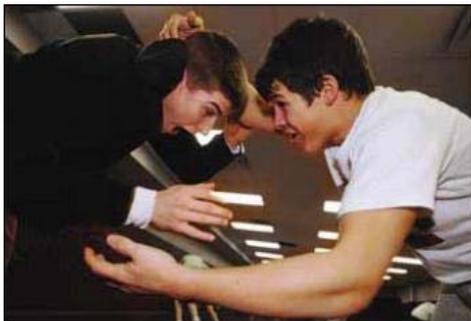
Wyandotte Tribal members who live within the boundaries of designated "Indian Country" within the state of Oklahoma are eligible to title and register their vehicles with the Tribe's Tax Commission. Also, in order to title and register the vehicle with the Tribe, the Tribal member must have a financial interest in the vehicle and it must be principally garaged in Oklahoma Indian Country. Unfortunately, there are still several counties in the state that we are not able to issue plates based on legal advice. These counties are in the Oklahoma City and panhandle areas.

For those Tribal members who already have Tribal plates, the program staff would like to remind them they must carry a copy of their Wyandotte Nation membership card in the vehicle at all times. This is proof that a member of the Tribe does own the vehicle and that the Tribe is not issuing plates to anyone but Wyandotte Tribal members. As with the state, you must also carry in the vehicle, insurance verification and the vehicle registration. However, one factor where the Tribe's program differs from the state is if a vehicle is sold, the tribal member is to retain their Wyandotte Nation license plate. The tribal member can then transfer this plate to another vehicle if they choose. Program staff are currently in the process of finalizing the details and will hopefully be titling and registering motorcycles by April 1st.

Please feel free to stop by the office or give us a call at (918) 678-2297 x219, if you have questions concerning the program. Program staff asks that you please make appointments for tag purchases. This helps to alleviate the Tribal member having to wait on the staff or possibly having to return on a different day.

Member News

Coach: Joplin sophomore improving every day



Globe/Tom Brown Joplin High School sophomore Caleb Friend (right) practices with teammate Justin Mehalic, a junior, on Tuesday afternoon in the high-school wrestling room.

By Zach Ewing

zewing@joplinglobe.com

Published January 17, 2007 12:17 am in the Joplin Globe

Scouting be darned, Joplin wrestler Caleb Friend prefers not to have knowledge of his opponents.

“Really, it’s better not to know if the person’s good or bad,” Friend said. “If you think that someone’s better than you, you’re already beaten. I don’t underestimate anyone, but I like to think we’re equal, even if I don’t know him.”

It was perhaps a stroke of fortune, then, that Friend, the Eagles’ starting 119-pounder, wasn’t familiar with Seneca’s Jon Redd, his opponent Thursday night during Joplin’s 39-23 dual victory. Friend knows just about every other Indian wrestler, he says, a product of his Seneca upbringing.

“I got to see a lot of my old friends, and it was kind of fun because I got to talk to them before the match,” Friend said. “I didn’t know the guy I wrestled though. He was one of the only ones I didn’t know.”

Friend didn’t give Redd enough time to make his acquaintance either. An early shot turned into a pinning combination for Friend, and he stuck Redd in 36 seconds.

“I like to look for a pin right off, off a

shot,” Friend said.

The pin of Redd ran Friend’s record to 14-7 as a sophomore, making him one of coach Shawn Finch’s vaunted young guns.

Last season, Friend was a 112-pounder, stuck behind eventual state qualifier Brandt Loyd, but he gained some valuable experience when Loyd missed the Ozark Conference meet with a shoulder injury.

Friend, stepping into the unknown, finished third in his first varsity tournament.

“It was a big opportunity to see where I was at last year and see what I could do,” Friend said. “I filled in and took third and that felt like a big accomplishment.”

Finch wasn’t too surprised by it. He said he could see improvement in Friend’s wrestling throughout the year. “Caleb has always worked really hard,” Finch said. “At the beginning of the year, Brandt was pinning him (in practice matches), and at the end of the year, it was a close match. His work ethic has really helped him a lot.”

Wrestling — and the work that comes with it — is in Friend’s blood. His dad wrestled for Seneca High School, and Friend started with the sport as early as age 6.

As his family moved to different towns in the Four-State Area — his father used to be a preacher — Friend stayed with it, except for a stint in Wyandotte, OK, where there wasn’t a youth wrestling program.

Friend moved to Joplin for his eighth-grade year and quickly became a stalwart in the wrestling room. Now, it’s starting to pay off. Friend has become a disciple of the attacking style Finch teaches.

“He’s a takedown machine,” Finch said. “He just goes and goes and goes. There is no 50 or 75 percent with him; it’s always 100 percent.”

Sometimes, that energy can get Friend into trouble. Finch said the sophomore still makes mistakes because of his youth — an attempt to escape will land him on his back, or an overzealous move on top will give his opponent an easy reversal.

“He’ll give up two points, and then lose the match by those two points,” Finch said. “But when he makes mistakes, it’s not because he’s not trying as hard as he can.”

That, Finch believes, will serve Friend well enough to make him one of six or seven Eagles who could qualify for the state tournament Feb. 15-17 in Columbia.

“He’s not the kind of kid who’s afraid of competition,” Finch said. “He wants to wrestle the best competition there is.”

In other words, Friend is willing to take on all comers; he just doesn’t want to know about them beforehand. Caleb is a member of the Wyandotte Nation.

Kweh Omateru,

I said “Hello my Friends”. Again I want to thank all of my supporters. As I have tried to be for so long, I have found another way to be of benefit to my Nation. I am now working for the Gaming Commission. We are Compliance Regulators and do the Licensing of Casino staff and vendors. The basic purpose of the Gaming Commission is to protect the assets of Wyandotte Nation. We will be housed in the new Wyandotte Nation Casino as soon as it is ready.

Oneh (‘til later)
Earlene Roskob
Wyandotte Member

Tribal Department Reports

Planning/Development Department - - January 2007

Plans continue to move forward on both ICDBG projects. The Housing Infrastructure project is moving forward with continued planning involving the Planning/Development Director and Housing Director along with the engineer from Allgeier Martin and Associates. Plans also continue to move forward on the Pre-School addition project. The project will soon be sent out to contractors for bid.

Construction continues on the new casino. Indian Reservation Roads funds were used for the construction of roads associated with this project. See pictures below of construction activities as of December 2006.



We welcomed a new employee to our maintenance team in December. Grover Tanner is a Tribal member as well as a member of the Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard. Grover has experience in many areas and we know he will be an asset to our staff.

We said good-bye to Norman Robbins in January 2007, who served the Tribe well as a Maintenance Supervisor for many years. We will miss him and his wonderful sense of humor. Below is his obituary.

Norman L. Robbins, 60, Wyandotte, OK passed into eternal rest at 8:45 PM, Sunday, January 7, 2007 at Freeman East Hospital in Joplin after an illness. Norman LeRoy Robbins was born April 1, 1946 in Springfield, MO the son of Wilbur and Eula "King" Robbins. Norman had lived in the Wyandotte

area over 20 years and was the Maintenance Supervisor for the Wyandotte Tribe in Wyandotte, OK. Norman married Julia Marr February 20, 1974 in Miami, OK and she survives. Additional survivors include; one brother, Mike Robbins, Higley, AZ; two sisters Ada Robbins, Seneca and Carol Betts, Hot Springs, AR; one step-son, Bobby Martin, Seneca. He was preceded in death by one brother, Ronald Robbins and one nephew Shannon Robbins. Memorial graveside services were held on Friday, January 12, 2007 at the New Salem Cemetery East of Seneca. In Lieu of flowers the family requested that memorial contributions be made to the Seneca R7 School Foundation in care of the Campbell-Biddlecome Funeral Home, PO Box 380 Seneca, MO 64865.

Environmental Department November – January

November is always a very busy month for the Environmental Department. Along with our normal water testing of six sites on Lost Creek and Spring and Neosho Rivers, we also conducted on EPA nutrient sampling on lost creek

On November 16th we held an Education Program with the Wyandotte Nation Preschool Department. We talked to the children about the importance of trees in the surrounding habitat. The students each made leaf prints and a leaf wreath. Approximately 30 students were involved in our education activity. Our department has plans to conduct an Education Program every three months with our Tribal Preschool.

The Thanksgiving holiday found us eating too much and moving a little slower as we came back on the next Monday. It didn't take us long to get back into the swing of things and on November 27th thru the 29th, along

with various Tribal, State and Local Agencies, we met with ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry) to discuss their health survey that was conducted in Ottawa County.

December found Christen traveling throughout the state for various training classes. On December 8th, Christen Creson and Meredith Garvin traveled to Shawnee for a Tribal Wildlife Grant Training Session.

December 8th also found Janice and Kathy transporting RENIE the Recycling Robot to Wilson Elementary in Miami, OK, to teach the children about the need to recycle.

December 11th & 12th, found Christen back on the road again to Oklahoma City for the Integrated Solid Waste Management Training.

December 20th found Christen once again on the road to Tulsa for a Mold Training Workshop. Each of these training sessions that Christen attended will help our Environmental Department to become an even better asset for the Wyandotte Nation.

Happy New Year! We are settling in once again after the Christmas and New Year Seasons, and looking forward to a busy and exciting 2007. Christen will be traveling to Kansas City on January 11th, to meet with Tribal, State and Federal officials to discuss the upcoming ASARCO Bankruptcy settlement.

On January 16th and 17th, Janice and Kathy will be assisting the US Fish & Wildlife Department, Tulsa Branch, with a sediment collection and study on the upper reaches of Grand Lake.

January 22nd thru the 26th will find Janice & Kathy in sunny Phoenix, Arizona, attending a Natural Resource Damage Assessment training, which is being hosted by the Department of Interior.

The Department would like to thank everyone that has been utilizing the two (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)
recycling bins that are located at the Tribal Complex and the Turtle Stop. The response has been great. We are anxiously awaiting the up and running operations of our cardboard baler to begin. This will be located just south of the Turtle Stop Convenience Store.

Notice: The Environmental Department has resumed the testing of Tribal member's water wells.

If you have any questions about activities or any environmental issues, please feel free to contact us at 918-678-2297, ext. 241 Christen Creson (Environmental Director), ext. 235 Kathleen Welch (Environmental Assistant), or ext. 245 Janice Wilson (Environmental Technician)

Family Services

Kate Randall, Director

Dana Butterfield, Enrollment Officer/Tax Administrator

Mother Nature announced the arrival of winter in Oklahoma in January with an ice storm. The 4-State area was affected by the storm and now that it has passed we have taken inventory of our blessings and of our friends and neighbors who came together to help one another in crisis. It is now time to settle down and embrace the 2007 New Year with focus on our Tribal Families. Let us build bridges from generation to generation by building healthy relationships and providing safe and stable homes for our children. It has been said that it takes an entire village to raise a child and it starts at home with parenting. Parenting takes dedication and hard work that is both challenging and rewarding. Parents don't make mistakes because they don't care, but because they care so deeply. We have been so anxious to give our children what

we didn't have that we have neglected to give them what we did have. True wealth is what you are, not what you have. You are Wyandotte.

As we embark upon the 2007 New Year, Family Services Staff would like to welcome you to stop by the tribal headquarters or phone us if you have any questions pertaining to services. The programs that are administered by Family Services are as follows: Promoting Safe & Stable Family Initiative, Indian Child Welfare, Individual Indian Money Account Distribution, Child Passenger Safety Seats, Tribal License Plates, and Tribal Enrollment (including issuance of Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood Cards).

Family Services:

The 2006/2007 Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant Initiative offers an array of need-based social services for Wyandotte Nation Family members residing in our services area. To apply for or to make inquiries regarding these tribal programs, please telephone this office.

LIHEAP (Low income home energy assistance program).

The Wyandotte Nation received notice in November from the Administration for Children and Families that we received a LIHEAP grant in the amount of \$3,600.00 for Oklahoma families. Over five hundred notices were sent to Oklahoma residents advising them of the funding. Thirty seven eligible families applied for and received LIHEAP assistance. Due to the success of the program, we will again apply for the grant in 2007.

Child Passenger Safety Seats

Child passenger safety seats are available at the Wyandotte Nation headquarters for enrolled Wyandotte children, or children that are eligible for enrollment. Safety seats are offered for newborn, infant and booster sizes. Protect your child in transit.

Tribal Membership:

Membership applications may be requested throughout the year and we encourage all eligible applicants to send them to us any time during the year. New members are added only one time per year during the Nation's September annual meeting. We do require that you send the ORIGINAL state certified birth certificates for our tribal certification and we will mail those back to you upon request. If you have lost or misplaced your tribal membership card please request a replacement in writing with your current mailing address.

Indian Child Welfare & Parenting:

On Sibling Rivalry: Knowing how to handle conflict is more than a matter of creating peace in the home; it is a matter of creating a peaceful attitude in ourselves and our children so that we can create that peaceful atmosphere in our home. With that being said, let's face it, kids fight. The next time your kids are going at it, take a deep breath and tell yourself, "They're normal." Conflict is inevitable in life. You can resolve conflict and make it less painful if you deal with it directly and creatively. Teach by example. We can teach our kids how to handle conflict. Children tend to handle it the way they see (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)
US handle it. If we were lucky enough to see significant people in our lives handle conflict assertively, without aggression or passivity, we can model for our children the same behavior. When given the proper tools, kids can and do come up with a productive plan to solve their own conflict. With young children you may have to give them options they can choose from. As they grow older, one of three things may happen. 1. They will share, 2. They will both get up and leave, finding something else to do, or 3. One of them will come up with a plan they both agree to. So instead of bombarding children with the message that aggression is the way to resolve conflict, we as adults can teach, through example, guidance, and instruction, that violence is an immature, irresponsible and unproductive way to resolve conflict and that using nonviolent tools to resolve conflict is a mature and courageous act. Eventually siblings do grow up, leave home and retain a lifelong bond of friendship and love for one another. Until next time.



2006 Children's Christmas Party

ELDER SERVICES

The past two months have been

very busy for us, trying to prepare for Thanksgiving, and the Children's and Elders' Christmas parties. It is really awesome to see all of the departments pull together to make it all happen successfully. Some came over and helped bake the cookies and set up the toys for the Children's party and volunteered their time for the party on Saturday. Others assisted with the set up, serving, and clean up with the Elders' Thanksgiving and Christmas parties. For the first time ever our department was able to go to Joplin and have a nice Christmas luncheon while those from other departments stepped in our places and served the Elders and cleaned up. We are truly blessed to have so many caring and dedicated employees. It is very obvious to see that the Chief has taught all of us what CARE really means here at the nation.

Remember that we now have two music parties each month. They are the 2nd and the 4th Thursday of each month. If you play a musical instrument, sing, or just want to enjoy the party, please come and join us. We also have cards, dominos, and puzzles.

The Bearskin Clinic provides us with free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

ARE YOU A CAREGIVER?

Do you perform tasks to help with personal care, shopping, bills, errands, transportation, etc. for your spouse or parents? Do you raise your grandchildren in your home and need childcare (respite) for a much needed break?

CAREGIVER SERVICES

Individual counseling

Respite enables the caregiver to be temporarily relieved from their caregiver duties. Our program will pay a respite provider of the family's choice so they may have a break.

Support Groups. Caregiver Group meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at the Wyandotte Tribal Complex. Grandparents Group meets the 1st Friday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at the Grove Public Library.

Eligibility. Caregiver or person receiving care has to be (55) years of age or older, have a CDIB card or tribal card. Grandparents (55) years or older who are primary caregivers of grandchildren (18) years of age or under.

Questions about our Caregiver program? Please call 1-800-256-2539 ext. 253 or 227.

As always, we invite you to come and visit us anytime.

Brenda House, Director, Elder Services ext.227

Dari Ann Hunnicutt, Caregiver Specialist ext.253

Vonda Keller, Food Service Team ext.228

Alexandra Boyd, Food Service Team ext.228

Kandi Smith, Food Service Team ext.228

For the menu ext.226

Roll # 1592

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 García at 918-678-2297 ext. 217 to claim your prize.

Education Department

Preschool:

October: The Preschool children enjoyed their Halloween Party on the 31st with lots of fun and games. The homeroom mothers once again did a marvelous job with many goodies for everyone. Following the festivities, the preschoolers went "Trick or Treating" at the Bearskin Wellness Center, the Fitness Center, WNT, Administration, Title VI, Environmental, Housing, Family Services and Education staff. For the finale, the little ghosts and goblins entertained parents, grandparents, elders and Wyandotte Nation staff with music and poems in the Title VI Building.

November: On the 3rd, we held our Thanksgiving Dinner at the Eastside Assembly of God Church. Before the dinner began, parents, grandparents, Wyandotte Nation Staff, and Wyandotte Public School Staff enjoyed the children as they entertained them with songs and poems of Thanksgiving. With an attendance of 175, good food and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone.

December: On the 1st we attended the play Frosty the Snowman at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Missouri. After the play, we went to CiCi's and had pizza. This was a very enjoyable day with the preschoolers. We are planning more field trips in the near future so the children can be exposed to new experiences. Santa made a surprise appearance at the preschool on the 20th. Santa and Mrs. Culver had a wonderful time as they passed out gifts to each child. Santa listened intently to their requests for their favorite toys as he had to add these to his list. Each child's picture was taken as they sat on Santa's lap and the picture was given to their parents.

Library:

The Wyandotte Tribal Library is open from 8am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday. New books and videos are being added for our patrons' enjoyment. If you have a particular book or video that you are interested in, please contact Karen McNelis or Jessie Winscott. They look forward to meeting you and providing assistance. There is no charge for a membership card which entitles you to utilize the library.

Child Care & Development Fund Program:

The Child Care Program is currently serving 150 families, which includes 75 Wyandottes. We utilize 75 licensed facilities to provide services for our Native American children. We offer assistance based on income to all federally recognized tribes. Participants must reside within a 100-mile radius of the tribal headquarters.

Application Requirements: Copies of:

-  CDIB or membership card
-  Social Security Card for every member of the household
-  Birth Certificate and shot record for child/children attending day care
-  Verification of present employment
-  Proof of residence
-  Class schedule if attending education classes
-  Divorce decree, if applicable

Tribal Scholarships:

The fall semester is over and grades are being received in my office. Checks have been sent to our continuing recipients for the school year 2006-2007. If your fall grades and spring schedule have not been sent to my office, please do so as quickly as possible in order to expedite funding for the spring semester. Scholarships for the fall semester are now available in the Education Office. As of this date, 18 students have requested applications for a scholarship for the fall semester of 2007. Complete applications are due in my office by 4 pm May 1, 2007. Scholarships are in the amount of \$500.00 each semester. You must meet all criteria to remain on program and submit your grades in a timely fashion to insure funding. Currently, 65 students are being funded either by Tribal scholarships or Higher Education which is funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Housing assistance grants are available for those students who live in the four-state area which includes, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas. To receive housing assistance, you must reside in the dorm or be renting an apartment or house for the current semester that you are attending college. Proof of rent must be provided. If you meet the criteria and are not receiving assistance, please contact Ms. Carla Culver at ext. 230.

Educational Department continued.....

Scholarship Requirements: New Applicants Only

- 📖 Copy of Student Aid Report (all pages) from the Free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application (it may take 3-4 weeks to obtain results, so plan ahead).
- 📖 Copy of your Wyandotte Nation Membership card.
- 📖 Copy of your Certificate Degree of Indian card (CDIB)
- 📖 Copy of your Social Security card
- 📖 Official high school transcript (7) semesters or GED scores
- 📖 Official ACT/SAT or College Placement Scores (ACT/SAT may be listed on high school transcript)
- 📖 Copy of acceptance letter
- 📖 Official undergraduate transcripts (if applicable)
- 📖 A completed and signed application
- 📖 Letter of reference section – 3 letters of reference. One must be from a school official or educator. No letters from relatives.
- 📖 One page essay entitled “Tell Me About Yourself”
- 📖 Wallet size photo of applicant

Workforce Investment Act (WIA):

Brad King, WIA Specialist, has resigned his position and Ms. Carla Culver, Education Director, will be handling the WIA Program for an interim period. Brad is continuing his education at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas. His ambition is to become a pharmacist. We wish him the best of luck in pursuit of his new career. Approximately 25 students are being served at various colleges and technical schools. The WIA Program serves 9 counties: Crawford and Cherokee in Kansas; in Missouri, Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Dade, Lawrence and Barry. If you reside in one of these counties and you are interested in schooling of any type, please contact Ms. Culver at Ext. 230 or 234. If you reside in Oklahoma, please contact Helen Christie at Inter-Tribal Council in Miami, Oklahoma, at 918.542.4486.

Submitted by:
Carla Culver

Job Fair

The Wyandotte Nation Casino held a job fair on January 23, 2006. They had approximately 600 applicants apply.





Why is the Flag folded thirteen times?

Have you ever noticed on TV or at military funerals that the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times? Here is the meaning of each of those folds and what it means:

The **first fold** of our flag is a symbol of life.

The **second fold** is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The **third fold** is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The **fourth fold** represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The **fifth fold** is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The **sixth fold** is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and

Justice for all.

The **seventh fold** is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The **eighth fold** is tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The **ninth fold** is a tribute to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The **tenth fold** is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The **eleventh fold**, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The **twelfth fold**, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes,

God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The **last and most important fold** is when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nation's motto, "In God We Trust".

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

The next time you see a Flag ceremony honoring someone that has served our country, either in the Armed Forces or in our civilian services as the Police Force or Fire Department, keep in mind all the important reasons behind each and every movement. They have paid the ultimate sacrifice for all of us by honoring our Flag and our Country.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things which have deep meaning. You will see many flags folded in the coming weeks and now you will know why.

Displaying the Flag Outdoors

When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting from a window, balcony, or a building, the union should be at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff.

When it is displayed from the same flagpole with another flag - of a state, community, society or Scout unit - the flag of the United States must always be at the top except that the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for Navy personnel when conducted by a Naval chaplain on a ship at sea.

When the flag is displayed over a street, it should be hung vertically, with the union to the north or east. If the flag is suspended over a sidewalk, the flag's union should be farthest from the building.

When flown with flags of states, communities, or societies on separate flag poles which are of the same height and in a straight line, the flag of the United States is always placed in the position of honor - to its own right.

The other flags may be smaller but none may be larger.

No other flag ever should be placed above it.

The flag of the United States is always the first flag raised and the last to be lowered.

When flown with the national banner of other countries, each flag must be displayed from a separate pole of the same height. Each flag should be the same size. They should be raised and lowered simultaneously. The flag of one nation may not be displayed above that of another nation.

Services Provided to Tribal Members

Service	Program Contact	Phone Number	Extension
Dental	Donna Krewson	(918) 678-2282	257
Vision	Donna Krewson	(918) 678-2282	257
Clinic (for appointments)	Linda Coatney or Elaine Fidler	(918) 678-2282	228 or 230
Pharmacy	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	257
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	Reba Guilford	(918) 678-2297	239
Student Housing Assistance	Reba Guilford	(918) 678-2297	239
Housing Improvements	Reba Guilford	(918) 678-2297	239
Well-Septic Construction	Reba Guilford	(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	Carla Culver	(918) 678-2297	230
Job Training	Carla Culver	(918) 678-2297	230
Pre-School	Carla Culver	(918) 678-2297	230
Library	Carla Culver	(918) 678-2297	230
Adult Education	Carla Culver	(918) 678-2297	230
Childcare	Carla Culver	(918) 678-2297	230
Environmental	Christen Creson	(918) 678-2297	241
Human Resources	MaryAnn Hayworth	(918) 678-2297	220
Turtle Trax Printing	Pat Wilson	(918) 678-2297	238