

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



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February 2008

7th Street Casino Opens



After over a decade of litigation and court battles the Wyandotte Nation officially opened the 7th Street Casino in downtown Kansas City, Kansas, on Thursday, January 10th. At 6pm the doors opened for the opening ceremony which was attended by Kansas City, Kansas, Mayor Joe Reardon, local congressman Dennis Moore and many other local dignitaries along with a large contingent of Wyandotte citizens. The highlight of the opening was the smoking ceremony performed by Chief Bearskin which

was followed by the official ribbon cutting in which Mayor Readon, Congressman Moore and Tribal officials participated.

After years in court, Wyandotte Chief Leaford Bearskin said, the fight is over and the tribe won.

“We went by all the rules and regulations set up by Washington,” said Bearskin. “We went by the law and we came out on top. We’re going to stay on top.”

“The people of Kansas City will never be sorry the Wyandotte are (continued on page 3)

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:

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The Chief Says.....



Chief Leaford Bearskin

The end of year holiday season is

over and now we can re-think about all the resolutions we made recently and figure out which ones are still do-able or not.

All of our annual activities were extremely successful. Our Pow-Wow, our annual meeting, and our Christmas party were all fun filled and pleasant. It's amazing how easy things become when we always work together to make things happen.

I am extremely thankful to our Great Spirit for all His help in guiding our Wyandotte Nation on our road to progress and prosperity.

From all appearances the coming year of 2008 will present

us with opportunities to grow and prosper. Our tribal leaders must always keep in mind that working together as a team is the best insurance for success. We are blessed with a good Board of Directors, the best Department Heads, and the best employees of any tribe in the nation.

My most important resolution for the year of 2008 is to keep impressing our tribal leaders, Department Heads, and employees that working together as a team is the way to go. We as a team are running the Wyandotte Nation and expect a great future for the Nation.

From Billy Friend - Second Chief



Kweh,

I hope this letter finds all doing well and keeping warm during these long winter months.

After twelve years of litigation we finally opened our 7th Street Casino in downtown Kansas City, Kansas, on Thursday, January 10th. It was a great night with the Mayor of Kansas City, Kansas, and many of the local city and state officials on hand, plus many of our own citizens in attendance.

Despite all the opposition, just as we have done for centuries we patiently persevered and prevailed. Contrary to what has been said in the press and the officials of the state of Kansas, the Wyandotte

Nation followed the rule of the law to establish our rights to conduct gaming on the land and never engaged in any unlawful act during the 12 years it took to vindicate our right. In fact the only unlawful act that took place on the land during the entire process was under the direction of the top law enforcement officials in the state of Kansas when they conducted a raid on our land more than three years ago. These officials' actions were rebuked as unlawful by courts at both the state and federal level.

Many have asked why the Tribal Leadership stayed with the fight when so many in the state of Kansas opposed the casino. We did it for the betterment of our people. People can disagree upon whether gaming in any form is good for the community. Many among our own citizenry are still divided on the merits of gaming and its social impacts. Unfortunately, the federal government continues to cut our funding and not fulfilling its treaty obligations. Therefore, we have

had to use gaming as a means to fund our programs for the betterment of our people.

On a different note, the powwow grounds construction is still on schedule and we plan to have our powwow there in September. It will be nice once again to be back on our own grounds for powwow.

Last year was a very good year for the Wyandotte Nation and we are looking forward to another great year in 2008. I want to wish each one a Happy New Year and may our Great Spirit watch over and protect you and your family throughout.

As always it is a great honor to serve you as Second Chief and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Billy Friend



Editorial



Kim Garcia

A successful business man was vacationing at a remote beach in Mexico. As he was lying on the beach, he bought a grilled fish from a young fisherman. He ate the fish and began talking to the man about the delicious fish. He asked him, "How do you spend your day?" The man replied, "Well, I wake up in the late morning. I get my nets and boat ready and I go out to the ocean and fish for a few hours. I catch enough to sell on the beach to make a little money and the rest is to feed my family. I spend the afternoon on the beach grilling fish and talking to all the people. I go home and have a siesta with my wife. My wife cooks a great dinner for the whole family and we enjoy the evening. Then in the late evenings, I go out on the town with my friends and family. I go to bed late and then I wake up late and start the whole day over again."

The business man tells him, "You know, you have such a great opportunity here. You should start spending more time out on the boat. Catch more fish and sell them. Soon, you will have enough extra money and enough business to employ a few more to help you.

If you work long, hard hours, you will soon be able to buy a bigger boat. Then, you will be able to buy a fleet of boats with many employees under you. If you work even harder, you will be able to start a manufacturing business. You can sell your fish to the whole country. A few years of that, you will be able to make your company sell internationally. You can move to New York City and have your business go public and sell shares of stock."

The young fisherman was getting very excited hearing all these possibilities. He asked the business man, "This all sounds great, how long do you think it would take me to do all of this?" The man replied, "Well, if you work very hard and put in a lot of time, you could have this in 20 or 30 years." The fisherman then asked, "Then what would I do after I do all of this?" The businessman says, "Well, you retire and you can move to a remote beach in Mexico. You can wake up late in the morning and go out to the ocean and fish for a few hours. You can spend your afternoon on the beach and go back to your house and have an afternoon siesta with your wife. Have a nice dinner with your family and then go out on the town with your friends and family. You can go to bed late and wake up late to start the whole day over again."

I heard this story at church in the Thanksgiving service. The pastor was trying to get the

point across that more people need to be thankful for what they already have. So, instead of making a New Year's resolution, I made a Thanksgiving resolution: Be thankful for what I have and complain less.

For 2008, I wish all our families a prosperous and happy year. Be thankful and complain less. Remember, it's not about getting what you want; it's wanting what you got.

There will be a mail out soon concerning the trip to Ohio in the Spring.

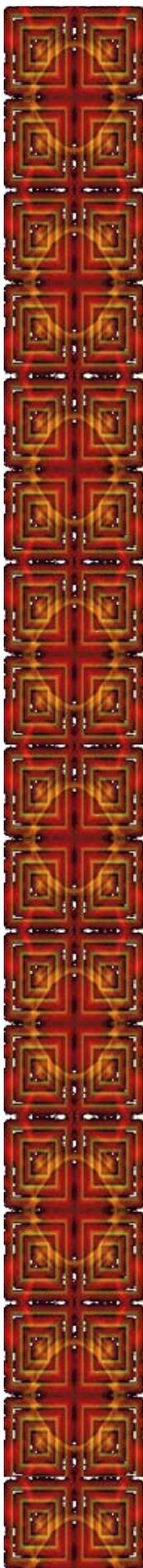
Casino cont.

(continued from front page) here."

The casino is located at 803 North 7th Street, at the intersection of 7th Street (State Hwy 69) and Ann Avenue in the downtown area. It is adjacent to Huron Park and the Huron Indian Cemetery. The casino offers 20,000 square feet of gaming on two floors with Lucky's Steak and Chop House a full service restaurant and lounge on the first floor.



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



Casino News



Out with the old and in with the new. The Turtle had a great 2007 with Thanksgiving Turkeys and the cooking tools we gave away for Thanksgiving. Then Christmas we made four families happy with the four \$500.00 Wal-Mart gift certificates we gave away on December 19, 2007. The Turtle's New Year's Eve Party did good with our sister Casino right next door. We were down a little compared to last year but we had a lot of fun and happy customers. There was \$208.00 given away every 15 minutes for a chance to win \$2,008.00 at

midnight. It wasn't hard to hold a crowd with free food from 7 p.m. till midnight.

Yes, we had a great year but a lot of good things to look forward to.

There will be remodeling on the Lucky Turtle with a new look and about 15 more machines.

January we are getting ready for the new add-on and have decorated. Half of the Lucky Turtle for our Valentine give away on February 14, 2008, which is (4) Dinners for Two at our Twin Bridges Restaurant and the other half is decorated for our Mardi Gras New Orleans Trip for Two. Come in and play and sign up for both give-aways for the month of February.

March is known for it's windy weather, so we are going to have a big blow out for St. Patrick's Day on March 17, 2008, with hats and beads and our Pot of Gold give away for \$1,700.00. So put on your green and come to the Lucky Turtle for a fun night.

In April, the Turtle is giving a Patio Set away and also having an Easter Egg Hunt. The big event will be the 1st Anniversary of our sister casino. Let's all do what we can to make it a big success. "Happy Anniversary" Wyandotte Nation Casino.

Trudy Pendergraft



What An Amazing Night: Wyandotte Nation Casino Rang in the New Year "Celebrity Style" giving away over \$20,000 cash and prizes; a fabulous event that brought in a total of 8706 guests at WNC and a record setting 1295 guests at LTC throughout the day and evening hours. In addition to what we gave away through promotions, a total of 26 jackpots were won on December 31st with a total pay out of \$81,055.

Advertising cash and prizes, live entertainment, fine dining and drink specials at Twin Bridges Restaurant and lounge, and of course the \$10,000 Ultimate Cash Give-A-Way through multiple media venues, as well as internal signage really created a buzz for the event.

Through hot seat drawings, \$50 cash and chocolates from Godiva Chocolatier were given away throughout the evening, along with party favors including hats, beads, and

tiaras, as well as free t-shirts provide by our vendors.

After the exciting midnight balloon drops located in 3 areas of the facility, the cash prizes increased to \$2008 in addition to the chocolates. Not one, but three different guests were eligible to win. The \$2008 winner's names and address are listed below. All three winners have been visiting the casino since opening. It's nice to see some of our regular guests win the bigger prizes.

1. Darlene Ellis – Goodman, MO
2. JD Easter – Pryor, OK
3. Nancy Harris – Neosho, MO

Doyce Cardwell of Fairland, OK took home the Grand Prize Drawing, \$10,000 in cash!

Doyce and his wife are regular guests at Wyandotte Nation Casino. Both were very excited when we drew Mr. Cardwell's name. Only one name was drawn for the Ultimate Cash Give-A-Way. People were gathered around with anticipation and seemed excited for the Cardwell's.

New Items: We've added a few new standard promotions to our already existing daily events. Mad Money Mondays and Take the Bank Tuesdays have begun with cash hot seat drawing winners every 15 minutes from 6pm-8pm. We've also incorporated a "Greet and Treat" promotion where representatives from Player's Club will greet our guests into the casino and hand out candy, beads, chocolates, etc depending on the Monthly Theme. This "customer service" based concept will run Wednesdays through Saturdays during the monthly promotion dates.

Joplin Project: The Joplin Project located at the Northpark Mall is scheduled to be complete by the end of this week with a decorated Wyandotte Nation kiosk located close to American Eagle. Tickets will be handed out at the Customer Service area in the mall offering \$5 Casino Cash and a chance to win a \$50 Northpark Mall gift card on the last Friday of every month. In order to redeem the \$5 Casino Cash and be entered into the monthly drawing, the ticket must be presented at "Club (continued on page 11)

Member News

Honor Guard



December 17, 2007 brought joy and celebration to the complex! Five of the Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard graduated High School! "It only took 50 years!" were the words from Ted Nesvold (Commander), one of the graduates. This program was introduced by Barbara Collier, wife of member Richard Collier and co founder of the Honor Guard. While reading an article in a magazine, she came across a story where some states were rewarding veterans, who left school to join the service, before they were able to complete high school. This program was started in 1999 to thank all veterans for the sacrifices made for their country. The proud graduates include:

Richard Collier served from 1964-1969 in both the Army National Guard and United States Air Force.

Freddie Comfort served 1955-1959 in the United States Air Force.

Theodore "Ted" Nesvold 1955-1962 United States Air Force.

Grover Tanner, 1967-1974, United States Army.

Isaac Tanner United States Air Force.

Carla Culver, Education Director for the Nation, researched the program and spoke with Miami High School Principal Mike Reese, who is already involved in the program.

The diplomas are dated the year the veteran would have graduated from high school.

Congratulations Gentlemen and thank you for the sacrifice you made.

Christmas Party

The children of the Wyandotte Nation had a wonderful day at the complex on December 8. Santa made his annual stop to welcome all 110 children and their moms, dads and grandparents. The children sat on Santa's lap and then picked out a toy. A few had some problems with such a large selection to choose from, but in the end everyone walked away very happy! There was cookies and punch for refreshments and lots of joy on this day. It is always a great time to visit with friends and family.

Thanks to the families who bring their children out, it is really a blessing to see each of them.



Pictured: Neleh Hawkins with Santa. Neleh is the daughter of Jillian and Thomas Hawkins of Grove, Oklahoma and the Granddaughter of Ron and Kathy DeWeese of Seneca, Mo.

Announcement



Trevor James Lofland

Curtis and Jamie Lofland of Webb City, MO are proud parents of son, Trevor James, born July 17, 2007, at 3:21 p.m. weighing 8lbs 5oz and measuring 21 inches. Grandparents are Jim and Debbie Johnson, and Doug and Judy Lofland of Wyandotte. Great-Grandparents are Joe and Norma Johnson of Grove, Bill and Norma Leader of Seneca, Norman and Joann Hughes of Miami, and Charles and Rosemary Lofland of Wyandotte.

1st Place Winner

Caleb Friend, a junior at Joplin High School, Joplin, Missouri, and a member of the Wyandotte Nation, won all three of his matches at the Ozark Conference wrestling meet Saturday, February 2, 2008, and brought home a first place medal in the 119 pound weight class. Caleb was the only member of the Joplin team to finish first in the tournament. The Joplin Eagles will travel to Jefferson City, Missouri, on February 9, 2008, for the District tournament. The top four places in each weight division will then move on to compete in the State Tournament held in Columbia, Missouri, February 14-16.

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

Tribal Department Reports

Bearskin Healthcare Center

Greetings from the Bearskin Health Center. I have enjoyed being part of the family since starting here in April 2007. I am grateful to be able to have a part in providing the primary care medical needs for the Wyandotte and Eastern Shawnee Nations.

We are excited to announce that we are transitioning to an electronic health record and practice management system. We purchased the system last October, and since then have been scanning charts and training in order to be in full effect by this Spring. All office notes, laboratory and X-ray reports will be securely stored in a computer database. Instead of using a paper chart, I will be carrying a portable tablet PC to document the patient visit. I know this will be awkward at first for both the patient and myself. Please be patient with me as I learn this new way of doing things. Even though change is not always easy, this will be necessary to keep up with the requirements of the government and health insurance companies in today's high-tech society. We are also implementing a new pharmacy module that will allow us to more easily and accurately keep medication inventories, refills and prescription records.

I would like to commend our office staff for the excellent work they do. It is great to be a part of a wonderful team.

Brian Smith, D.O.

Planning/Development Department January 2008

We want to introduce, Debbie Dry, the new Planning/Development Specialist. Debbie is a member of the Wyandotte Nation, and has graduated from Crowder College and is still attending Missouri Southern State University with a scholarship through the tribe. She is looking forward to working with you, and we expect great things.

We have several projects going on at this time. The Pow-Wow grounds are really coming along. The well has been dug, and we will proceed with electrical

work and well houses will be constructed shortly.



Vendor site electrical hookups at PowWow grounds

Currently doing site assessments needed for Land in Trust requirements and other tasks, so that the Bureau of Indian Affairs will take the Land in Trust. Land projects include the new Pow Wow grounds area, the old Passley property and the 60 acres north of the tribal complex that houses the future sub-division which is under construction. Also assisting in providing updates to the Park City, KS, land in Trust application. To insure that there are no environmental hazards, we have been walking the properties with the Environmental Engineer.

Prepared and submitted the grant for Title VI program (Elders nutrition program). This is a grant that has to be renewed every 3 years. Preparations are under way to prepare a grant application for performing a tribal census through the Administration for Native Americans. Other grant projects include submission of a basic library grant, and to start the planning for a new building to be funded by the Indian Community Block Grant.

Now that the Culver Education Center (Preschool Expansion project) is finished, we are in the process of closing out the Indian Community Development Block Grant for this project.

Still assisting the Miami agency Bureau of Indian Affairs with mapping Trust Lands. This project should be completed this year.

Implementation of the new ICDBG water system project is under way. Engineering design work will commence in January and we anticipate preliminary plans to be complete inside of 60 days

(subject to weather).

As you can see in the picture, the road in the new sub-division is awaiting asphalt, and the contractors are awaiting good weather to pour it.



Ron Kaiser Planning/Development
Director ext. 225

Debbie Dry Planning/Development
Specialist ext. 215

Environmental Department

November 3 we welcomed Earl Salisbury to our department. Earl is our Water and Education Technician and will be assisting Janice with water monitoring and other related activities, and will also be performing the duties of our education activities.



The last week of November found Christen traveling to Dallas, TX for the RTOC/EPA Summit. This Summit enables the Tribal Environmental Departments to meet one on one with our EPA Region 6 Project Officers.

December found us truly enjoying the holidays and eating way too much. On December 19th we performed our quarterly nutrient sampling tests on our three Lost Creek Sites. These tests are to keep the Wyandotte Nation and EPA (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)
 informed on the conditions of Lost Creek, which flows directly through tribal lands.

December 28th, Christen and Faron Lee welcomed Samuel Wyatt to their family. In talking with Christen, she is very much enjoying her time off with baby Wyatt.



Thank you to everyone that has been utilizing the two recycling trailers. We have a large one located at the Turtle Stop parking lot, and the other located at the Tribal Complex parking lot. Red Cedar Recycling Center, which is owned and operated by the Modoc Tribe picks up our trailers on a regular basis. Below are the latest results from the recycling products that were picked up during the month of December.

Large trailer located at Turtle Stop



Newsprint -----	865 lbs
Office waste -----	32 lbs
Magazines -----	28 lbs
Plastic bottles -----	168 lbs
Aluminum cans -----	18 lbs
Scrap metal including steel cans ---	42 lbs
Total -----	1,153 lbs

Small trailer located at Tribal Complex Newsprint -----	295 lbs
Office waste -----	36 lbs
Magazines -----	42 lbs
Plastic Bottles -----	138 lbs
Aluminum cans -----	6 lbs
Total -----	517 lbs

Our department also will do free Bacteria Tests on private wells for Wyandotte Nation Tribal Members and is seeking 10 Tribal Members on a private well system to do testing for heavy metals. Please contact Janice Wilson to set up a test date.

For more information you may contact our department at 918-678-2297.

Christen Lee, Environmental Director (x241)

Kathleen Welch, Environmental Assistant (x235)

Janice Wilson, Environmental Technician (x245)

Housing Department News Spring 2008

In the spring of 2007, we were pleased to inform our Tribal members of our good news of plans to build a new complex for families and seniors which will adjoin our present Tribal Complex. We have approximately 57 acres adjoining this property and it is our goal to construct approximately 8 senior units and 20 to 24, two and three bedroom family units on this property. These plans are something which are definitely going to happen. It will probably be about two years before this whole project is ready for occupancy.

We are very, very pleased to be able to inform you that this IS beginning to happen and that we now have in our water and sewer and road base for this project. It is progressing very, very nicely and as soon as weather permits we will be going full force once again.

Once again we wish to say that we are very, very excited about this project and hope to make it the best in the whole Indian country for our Tribal Members.

Please keep in touch for further updates on this project.

Reba Guilford, Housing Director

Well, Septic, Sewer, Rural Water Installation IHS - 121 Program

Once again, we feel the need to mention that the Tribe has an Indian Health Service (IHS-121) Program, which is a program for installation of wells, septic tanks and/or septic drainfield systems, rural water hookups, sewer line hookups, etc. These are provided for Wyandotte Tribal Members within a specified service area. If you are in need of any of the above mentioned water/sewer projects, please check with this office to see if you are in the specified area.

We would be happy to assist you with an application and any information you might need for the above program. If you would like to inquire about this or any of our other housing programs, please do not hesitate to contact the housing department office at (918) 678-2297, either extensions 236 or 239.

Reba Guildford, Housing Director

Family Services Department

Kate Randall, Family Services
 Dana Butterfield, Family Services, Tag & Enrollment

Since our 4th quarter newsletter in November the flurry of the Holiday Season has passed as we embark on 2008 with anticipation of many blessings for the Wyandotte Nation and its people. Our endurance was tested during the December ice storm that left almost half the State of Oklahoma without power. As a society we have become accustomed to our modern conveniences which in turn may cause us to remember our ancestors' way of life prior to modernization. This reflection takes us back to the basics of life— through the preservation of our environment. We need shelter, food, water and fire to survive the elements. The plentiful supply of firewood as a result of the ice storm will help keep us warm, our summer gardens will help to feed our families and our environmental department will continue to monitor and advocate for our water and natural resources in the year to come. We, as (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

Native People, can do our part to help preserve our natural resources so that we may continue our Circle of Life and honor the Great Spirits for these gifts.

Tribal Operations/Enrollment

Federally Recognized Indian Tribes have a right to determine their own membership. The right stems from the nature of tribes as political entities with some sovereign powers. A tribe's power over its membership includes establishing the membership requirements, the procedures for enrollment and the rights that go with membership. Through membership tribal members are united by a common language, common experiences, and common cultural traditions. The Wyandotte Nation's Constitution defines membership and the enrollment office has an enrollment ordinance, an enrollment committee and policies and procedures for maintaining the Nation's membership. If you have any questions pertaining to tribal membership, please feel free to contact us. Membership applications may be requested at any time during the year, however, new members are only voted into the tribe one time a year during the Nation's September Annual Meeting. Please keep the Nation apprised of address updates.

Tribal Tags:

The Wyandotte Nation Vehicle Tag Program was implemented in August of 1999. Currently there are over 1,400 plates in the system for passenger, recreational vehicles and motorcycles. Tribal plates are available to Oklahoma residents only who live within the boundaries of designated "Indian Country" within the State of Oklahoma. The counties NOT included in "Indian Country" are: Beckham, Canadian, Cleveland, Ellis, Kay, Kingfisher, Logan, Noble, Oklahoma, Pawnee, Payne, Alfalfa, Beaver, Cimarron, Garfield, Grant, Greer, Harmon, Harper, Jackson, Major, Texas, Woods, and Woodward. For your convenience, we ask that you make an appointment with the tag office

to obtain a renewal or new tag at the tribal headquarters. For new tags you will need: The original state title (signed and notarized), insurance verification and proof of tribal membership. For renewals please bring in your vehicle renewal registration that has been mailed to you and your insurance verification. The same requirements apply if you are mailing in your documentation.

Family Service Programs:

The Promoting Safe & Stable Family Initiative Grant has been awarded to the Wyandotte Nation for 2007/2008. Through this grant the Wyandotte Nation may provide an array of emergency need based social services in our service area for Wyandotte Nation Families with children in the household that may be at risk. It remains our goal to keep our families intact through these support services.

During the month of December, over 600 Oklahoma tribal families were notified of the winter Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Eligible applicants have been notified and home heating vendors received \$100.00 per household to help defray winter energy heating costs.

Child Passenger Safety Seats:

The child passenger safety seats are available at the tribal headquarters for eligible or enrolled Wyandotte tribal members. Car seats range from birth through booster sizes. The tribal tag program revenue funds the purchase of the safety seats. Let us help you keep your children safe.

The Family Services Department has an open door policy so please feel free to stop by the tribal headquarters or telephone us with any questions pertaining to these tribal programs. In 2008 Family Services will be sponsoring the National Week of the Young Child, the Summer Youth Program in June, the Native American Youth Camp in July and Back to School Supplies in August. Look for these and future updates in your quarterly newsletters.

ELDER SERVICES

Our Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners were a huge success! For the first time ever, the Elders did not have to stand in a big long line. We asked the Elders to come in and be seated. Staff from all the other departments came in and helped us prepare the food and serve each Elder at their table. We really had to step it up for the Christmas Dinner as we were closed down the first two days of the week because of the ice storm. But with everyone working together we made it. I would like to thank everyone who helped us. Without you it would not have been possible. I am proud that we have so many staff here at the Nation that still honor and respect their Elders. We received many comments from the Elders about how special we made them feel.

We have been working with several different Agencies. They visit our site during lunch time and do balance testing, fingernail painting, blood pressures, eye screenings, hot hand wax, and give us a lot of good information such as, circulation therapy for diabetics that Medicare will pay for, and many other helpful ideas.

Our Valentine Party will be Thursday, February 14, during the noon hour. We will have music and prizes for the Eldest Valentine, The Couple married the longest, The Newlyweds, and just for fun, the one married the most times and is willing to admit it.

Kelly from the Bearskin Fitness Center is still providing our chair aerobics sessions for us every Thursday and Friday at 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and Donna also from the Bearskin Health and Wellness Center is still providing blood pressure and blood sugar checks the third Wednesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. both are held here at the Nutrition Center.

Our music parties are still the second and fourth Thursday of each month during the noon hour.

CAREGIVER

Our Caregiver Support Group and our Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

Support Group enjoyed something a little different for their December meetings. Dari held both meetings at local restaurants. She took the first group to the Wyandotte Nation Twin Bridges Restaurant. Two representatives from Heaven and Earth Hospice gave a short presentation. They had a delicious lunch and gifts were exchanged. The second group met at Lorene's Restaurant in Fairland and had a wonderful lunch and gift exchange as well. Grandparents received some nice books for their grandchildren that were donated by the National Relief Charity.

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

Kandi Smith, Head Cook Ext. 228

Alexandra Boyd, Food Service Team Ext. 228

Pam Deaton, Food Service Team Ext. 228

Menu: Ext. 226

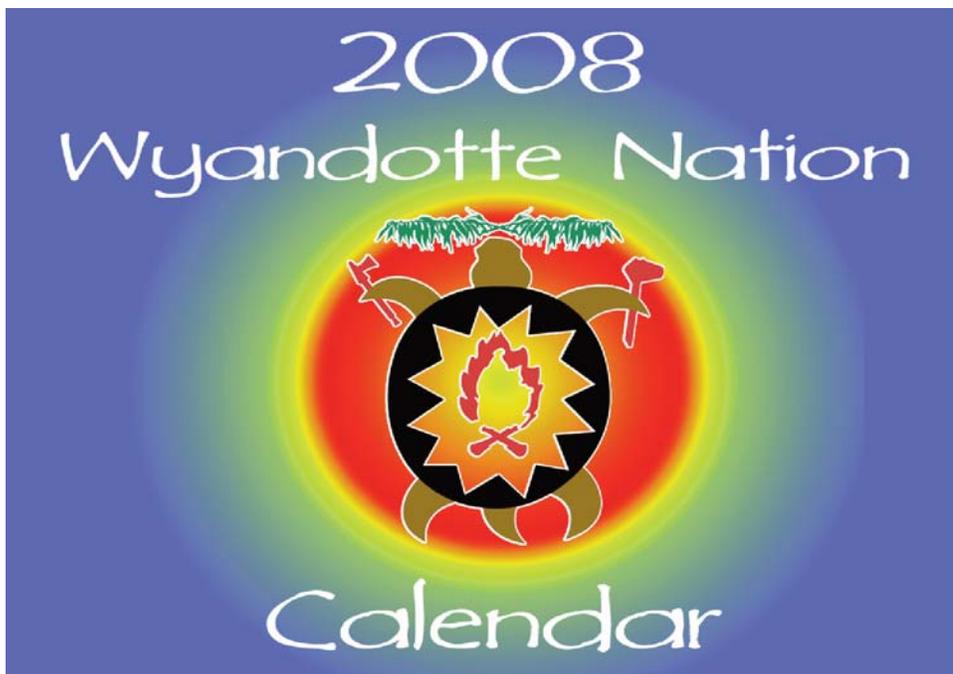
Summit

4th National Summit on Smokeless and Spit Tobacco

The 2008 National Summit on Smokeless and Spit Tobacco will be held this year on March 4-6 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Registration is open and can be found at www.okcspitsummit.org. Leading tobacco control experts from across the country will address the problem of smokeless tobacco trends as well as provide solutions to treating and preventing tobacco dependency. Concurrent sessions will also address tobacco cessation, practical community approaches to countering the tobacco industry and prevent tobacco use among youth, policy development, and cultural strategies for tobacco control.

Tribal health and policy officials, school officials, medical professionals, and community and youth advocates are encouraged to attend this important national event.

PowWow Calendar



The 2008 PowWow Calendars are available for purchase. If you would like to buy one, they are \$10.00 each. For more information contact Sherri Clemons at 918-678-2297 ext. 244.



Ursula Hill, Program Coordinator
 Native American Tobacco Education
 Network
 Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health
 Board
 3625 NW 56th St, Suite 106
 Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4559
 405-951-6005 Ext. 108
 405-951-3902, Fax



Education Department

Preschool:

The students of Wyandotte Nation Pre-school attended a play at Missouri Southern State University on Friday, November 30. After the play, the students and adults ate lunch at CiCi's Pizza. The winter semester of Pre-school ended on December 21. We did miss two days in December, when we had the ice storm. Christmas parties for the students were held and all children received a gift from the Wyandotte Nation. The classrooms were full of students and parents during the celebration. We utilized the new education center foyer for Santa visits with the students. Classes resumed on January 7, 2008 for the spring semester. We will be having Valentine parties and the Pre-school Pow-Wow soon.

Before and After School Program:

The new education center has been a wonderful addition to the before and after school program. We allow the children to play basketball in the gym while waiting for our bus to take them to school in the morning. The center has an individual room for the after school program to utilize. In this room they have computers with games and learning software, two video game stations and puzzles and board games. The gymnasium is used for basketball, volleyball, dodge ball, ping pong and kickball as well as just open space to run. This gym is very beneficial to the children who are playing basketball in the Wyandotte league. This newly formed group has teams of students from second through fifth grade in both boys and girls. They travel to nearby towns such as Quapaw, Fairland and Commerce. We have two boys on a team that are unbeaten for the season, they are also tribal members, and they are Austin Winkler and Aaron Arment. Sam Quick is on the team also and he is a past program participant. Other children who attend after school program and play are Haylee Floyd, Taryn Gray, Kayla McClendon, Lacy East and Coy Vowels.

Library:

The Wyandotte Tribal Library is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. New books and videos are being added for our patron's 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. The library grant is being written at this time to meet a March 1, 2008, deadline.

Child Care & Development Fund Program:

The Child Care Program serviced 311 children during the time frame of October 2006 through September 2007. We utilize licensed child care home and centers 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:

Fall grades are being processed and spring semester checks are going out weekly. Applications for new students are available in the education office for the school year 2008-2009. New applicants have a deadline of May 1, 2008 for consideration. Your spring scholarship will not be disbursed until your grades have been received. 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.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA):

We are pleased to announce that the WIA program has received a waiver for program funding. This allows the Wyandotte Nation to continue the program under its authority for two more years. Arthur is continuing to accept new clients for funding in either technical or collegiate settings. You must reside in Barry, Barton, Lawrence, Newton, Jasper, Dade and McDonald county in Missouri or Crawford and Cherokee counties in Kansas. If you are interested in applying, contact Arthur at ext 234.

Casino news cont.....

Pre-School Holiday Celebration

(continued from page 4)
Wyandotte”.

Retail: Marketing is also working on getting Retail up and running within the Player’s Club Area. The new cameras are now installed, a policy is in place, training is complete, and inventory has been taken. We are just working through some price points on the merchandise to be sold. Retail is scheduled to open Monday, January 21st.

What’s In Store: We are truly excited about the upcoming planned events. With Super Bowl, Valentines Day, and St Patrick’s Day right around the corner, we’re planning parties and non-stop give a ways for three months straight. We want our guests and potential guests to know that there’s always something going on at Wyandotte Nation Casino!



Pictured with Santa: Kirsten and Felicity Bruegel



Pictured: Collin Gray



Pictured left to right: Joshua Glenn, Brant Walker, Sara Foreman and Bryce Pogue at pre-school Christmas Program



Pictured with Santa: Mike Lawson



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

Wyandotte Nation Tag Office
Please call Dana or Kate
at (800) 256-2539
ext. 219 and ext. 224
respectively for
appointments.



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 Lee	(918) 678-2297	241
Human Resources	MaryAnn Hayworth	(918) 678-2297	220
Turtle Trax Printing	Pat Wilson	(918) 678-2297	238

