

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



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FEBRUARY 2009



New Chief of Staff



The Wyandotte Nation would like to welcome Kim Harnar to the position of Chief of Staff. Kim returns to the WN Government after serving the past several months with the Nation's Corporate Division. She has been employed with the Wyandotte Nation since February 2002, previously serving as the Government Controller and Chief of Staff. In 2005, Kim accepted a position with the WN Tribal Corporation, where she served as the Vice-President of Finance for Casino Operations. However, in 2008, the WN Government reopened the Chief of Staff position and Kim's background in finance, tribal government grants/contracts and leadership provided an avenue for her to rejoin the Government.

Kim is a Native American and a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. She was born and raised

in Northeast Oklahoma. Kim graduated from Wyandotte High School, Wyandotte, OK; Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Miami, OK and Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, MO, where she earned a B.A., Business Administration majoring in Accounting.

Kim resides in Seneca, MO along with her husband Donnie, of 18 years, and two sons, Tyler 17 and Timothy 15. She enjoys watching her sons compete in both football and wrestling. In her spare time, she enjoys riding motorcycles with her husband and spending quality time with family and friends.

Kim currently serves as a board member of Twin Bridges Park Partners where she assists other committee members in planning the annual community Christmas event "Park of Lights" display.

Kim is very adept in developing and planning critical programs to achieve optimum results. She is a results-oriented administrative management professional offering 13+ years of successful management, and 8+ years knowledge of federal grants and contracts.

Kim Harnar can be reached by calling 918-678-2298, x 211

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia

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Leaford Bearskin

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Billy Friend
Second Chief

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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

January is nearly gone and we are reminded that spring is just around the corner. The time is near when our Great Spirit will start to wake up our trees, plants, grass, mountains, streams; an awakening of all nature will be occurring.

It makes me wonder sometimes what would happen if our Great Spirit could develop a way to awaken human beings the same as He does nature. I wonder if the impact would foster love, respect, compassion, truth, honesty, responsibility, and ambition.

I wonder if progress could be made in improving the welfare of every

person in the world. I wonder if our attitudes could be awakened so we could focus on peace in our world.

Could all of us be persuaded to ask our Great Spirit to grant us these things?



From Billy Friend - Second Chief



Kweh,

I hope this letter finds all doing well and that you enjoyed a wonderful Holiday season. I would like to wish each of you a happy and prosperous New Year.

It has been one year since we opened our casino in Kansas City, Kansas and it has done very well in its first full year of operation. We still have a few challenges to overcome, but we continue to make progress. As I stated at annual meeting, due to the 12 years of litigation the Nation assumed a large amount of debt on the project and are looking at a very limited amount of profits for the first 3 years. However, it will be a good source of revenue for the Tribe in the future.

Our local casinos, the Wyandotte Nation Casino and the Lucky Turtle Casino, continue to be very successful in a very competitive market. We are still on target to have them paid off in January of 2010. This will enable us to expand our social programs here at the Nation to further improve the lives of our tribal citizens. My hat is off to our casino management and employees, they are the reason for our continued success here in northeast Oklahoma.

On the economic development front we have recently promoted Kelly Carpino to the position of Chief Executive Officer of Wyandotte Tribal Corporation. Kelly has served as Chief Financial Officer of WTC for the past ten years and has been instrumental in the success and growth of our economic development. She joined us when we only had two businesses and has successfully helped us through the challenges of opening three new casinos and two new SBA 8a businesses. Kelly has worn many hats these past years

and has proven not only to be a team player, but also has shown the leadership abilities to take Wyandotte Tribal Corporation to the next level of success.

Governmentally, we continue to face challenges as federal funding continues to diminish across the board for most of our programs. Our program directors continue to do an outstanding job of doing more with less. We added a new program in 2008 which is the Tribal Heritage Program and promoted Sherri Clemmons to director. Sherri is a citizen of the Wyandotte Nation and has been employed with the Tribe for the past 20 years.

We as a nation face many challenges in this upcoming year and I want to exhort you to pray for the leadership of our country and also for the leadership of the Wyandotte Nation, that God would provide us with the wisdom to guide this great nation. In closing I would like to leave you with the words of the apostle Paul from the 2nd chapter of 1st Timothy:
(continued on next page)

Editorial



Kim Garcia

With the onset of a new year, most kept their annual traditions. Many rang in the New Year with a kiss and well wishes of a Happy New Year to friends and loved ones. The song "Auld Lang Syne" was sung not quite on key and nobody remembering all the words. Toasts were made. New Year's resolutions were promised. The celebrations continued throughout the day as football games were watched, there were gatherings with food, and the laundry was left untouched lest we be plagued to do laundry all year long.

I, on the other hand, was in bed asleep by 10:30 that evening, I detest football, and I did about 3 loads of laundry. I am a firm

believer now that you will be cursed with much laundry the rest of the year if it is done on New Year's Day (of course it could be because I have 3 boys). I was perpetually behind the entire month of January. Offices were closed a few days last week due to ice, so I took the opportunity to catch up. The next day, I threw in a small load of clothes to make sure I kept caught up. The washer was broken. We had already fixed it 3 times in the last year so I think it finally gave up. Next year, I will NOT do laundry on New Year's Day.

I was talking to my oldest son, Joshua, about how I messed up on all the traditions. He said, "Mom, why don't we redo it every month? We could have a Happy New Month celebration." I'm sure he just wanted permission to stay up until midnight once a month but I thought it was a great idea.

Many of us see the New Year as a clean slate to start over on diets, exercise, quit smoking,

read more, or whatever we want to improve in our lives. If you're like most people, the resolutions have already been forgotten. Why do we need to wait 11 more months to try to do something to improve our lives? I challenge you to revisit those forgotten resolutions. See each new month as a new beginning to improve your daily life. Better yet, see each day as a new beginning (although I do not recommend staying up until midnight to ring it in).

Happy February everybody!



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

Second Chief (continued)

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1. I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;
 2. For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.
 3. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
- As always it is a great honor for

me to serve you as Second Chief.

Sincerely,
 Billy Friend
 Second Chief



Roll # 1861

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



by Danny Bass

The results have been tallied; Wyandotte Nation Casino is the 'Four States Favorite Casino.' The Joplin Globe has hosted this most established and accepted poll in the area for over a decade. Wyandotte Nation Casino overcame several local casinos to hold this distinguished position. Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated employees, this award was possible.

We continue to make strategic decisions to help us remain a leader in the local casino industry. Club Wyandotte, which is our players' club that tracks all of our players, is vital to a successful strategy. Each player earns points for their track play that earns casino cash, food, and more. Wyandotte Nation Casino is the first local casino to make our players' club's point system straight forward for our players. For every \$1 played, a player will earn 1 point. Our players love this new and improved point system. This will give Wyandotte Nation Casino a competitive edge over its competitors. In addition, we will be the first casino to implement a self comp food system. In addition to players using their points to buy food, players will enjoy complimentary food based on their track play.

As you can see, Wyandotte Nation Casino sets the curve and is the leader not the follower in our local casino industry. We are looking forward to a great 2009 year with more to come.



by Trudy Pendergraft

Lucky Turtle Casino had another great year in 2008. We ended with our

New Year's party with party hats, free food and \$209.00 every hour. For Hot Seat Drawings from 7 to 11 pm, all

players received ticket entries every 30 minutes from 7:30 till 11:30 pm for a final drawing of \$2009.00 at midnight. A lady from Neosho, MO, was the lucky winner.

Our next promotion will be February 11, from 7 till 10 pm, so come in now and play to receive your ticket entry for a "Pick your Valentine". There will be eight winners - (2) \$500 (2) \$100 (2) \$50 (2) \$25 and a heart full of chocolates.

The Wyandotte Nation Casino and the Lucky Turtle Casino was fortunate to win first place in the Park of Lights display this year. We gave the \$500 we won back to the Twin Bridges Park Partners so that it goes back to the community.

We now have a new General Manager, Mr. Gary Johnson, from Kansas City, MO. We are looking forward to working with him and getting some fresh ideas. Welcome Gary.

March will be here soon and we are going to give a Freezer and Meat package away for our March promotion. Every one that would like to win needs to come in and play at the Lucky Turtle to earn ticket entries.

We are looking forward to April, spring flowers, warmer weather and time to get the grills going again. Lucky Turtle Casino's April promotion will be a nice outdoor grill.

May 17th, 2009 is Lucky Turtle's 5th Anniversary, so we are working on some exciting things for that, so be watching in the local papers and our monthly calendar for updates. Have a great 2009 and Happy New Year to all from the Lucky Turtle Family.



The award winning Twin Bridges Restaurant & Lounge had a great

2008 year! The restaurant continues to set the bar high for other local casinos' restaurants. This year, an unexpected

article was in the Joplin Globe, written by a respected journalist, Cheryl Finley, who had visited Twin Bridges Restaurant. She raved about the great food and the outstanding service. Another respected journalist, Carol Parker, featured Twin Bridges on her show, 'Cooking with Carol.' She raved that Twin Bridges Restaurant & Lounge was one of her favorite restaurants. The praise is as consistent as the food, so if you haven't experienced what Twin Bridges has to offer or you haven't been by in awhile; come and enjoy one of their many nightly specials. Mondays are 'all you can eat' Catfish, Tuesdays are 'all you can eat' Ribs, Wednesdays are 'all you can eat' Frog Legs, and Fridays are the popular Sterling Silver Prime Rib.

New Manager

In January, Wyandotte Nation Casino welcomed its new General Manager, Gary Johnson. With over 15 years in casino operations in marketing and senior management, Gary possesses an extensive background in the gaming industry. Prior to Wyandotte, he was named President & General Manager designee with Nevada Gold and Casinos in Vicksburg, MS. He also served as Vice President and General Manager of the Argosy Casino Hotel and Spa in Kansas City, Missouri and Director of Marketing at Argosy's Lawrenceburg, Indiana property.

Earlier in his career, Gary worked in advertising for several large firms, including J. Walter Thompson which at the time was the world's largest advertising agency, managing major brands such as Anheuser Busch, Burger King, McDonald's and the St. Louis Baseball Club.

A native of Illinois, Johnson attended and graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication following his military service.

Member News

Ryhan Bagnell



Ryhan Madison Bagnell with her Wyandotte Nation baby blanket and moccossins. Ryhan's the daughter of Nathan and Ashley Bagnell. She was born May 12, 2008.

C.J. Napier Signs with Huskers

C.J. Napier a senior at Columbus High School in Columbus, KS and a citizen of the Wyandotte Nation recently signed a letter of intent to wrestle for the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers.

Napier, who finished third at 130 pounds as a freshman, has won the last two 135 pound titles in Class 4A to hike his career record to 108-9. He bounced back to take third as a freshman after losing 1-0 to the eventual champion in a semifinal.

Napier also is a two-time Freestyle Junior All-American (2007-08) and a Freestyle Cadet national titlist (2006) and the Amateur Wrestling News has him No. 6 at 135 in the U.S. entering his senior season. In Kansas, he's ranked first at 135 and first regardless of weight class.

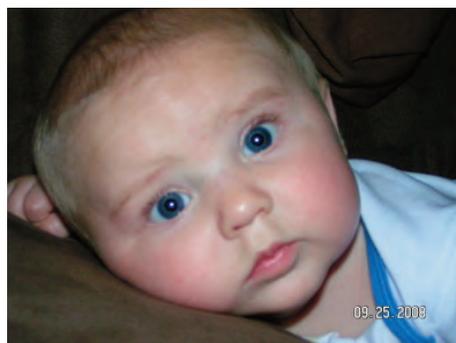
C.J. is the son of Todd and Shari Napier of Columbus, Ks.

Lord's Prayer



Wyandotte Nation Princess, Laura Guilford, presented the Lord's Prayer in sign language at the 2008 Texas Wine Tribute in Grapevine, TX, and greatly impressed the audience with her talent and poise. The black tie gala, chaired by another Wyandotte - Sallie Cotter Andrews (I), was attended by 384 guests including delegations from Austria, Mexico and Scotland and several ranking Texas elected officials. "It was such an honor to have Laura there, and her presentation made the evening exceptionally wonderful. I want to thank Chief Bearskin and Laura's father, Lloyd Guilford, for making her visit possible," said Sallie.

Avery Lofland



Eric and Jessica Lofland are the proud parents of their third son, Avery Scott, born April 28th 2008. He has two brothers, Caden six, and Brady three. They live in Wyandotte, Ok.

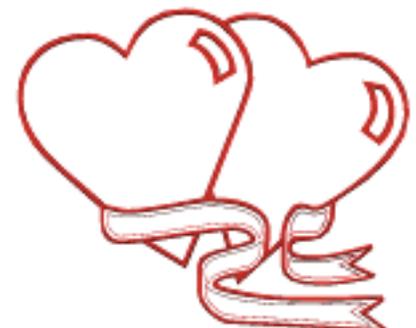
Connor Gray



Connor Marshall Gray was born January 13, 2009. He weighed 7 lb 11 oz and measured 20 1/2 " long. Connor is the son of Keith and Michelle Gray and the brother of Collin and Alicia.

Valentine Poem

This is a special gift
 That you can never see
 The reason it's so special is
 It's just for you from me.
 Whenever you are happy,
 Or even feeling blue,
 You only have to see this gift
 And know I think of you.
 You never can unwrap it,
 Please leave the ribbon tied...
 Just hold it close to your heart
 It's filled with LOVE inside.



Tribal Department Reports

Family Services

Kate Randall, Family Services

Dana Butterfield, Tag & Enrollment

It's a New Year and we look forward to renewing our spirits, our homes and our time with our families. As Wyandotte Nation employees, we look forward to serving our tribal families and the Wyandotte Nation. Since our last Turtle Speaks was published the Wyandotte Nation continues to make long term plans, as evidenced in this Turtle Speaks, of the advancement and growth of the Wyandotte Nation through both Federal Grants and Economic Development. Our dual citizenship as Americans and Native Americans is a privilege in that we have the opportunity to vote, to give back to our country and to give back to our nation. We can all make a contribution in 2009, big or small, to improve upon our lives, our communities and our nation. America is the Land of Free and will always remain the Home of the Brave. In 2009, we shall continue to pray for our troops fighting for our freedom and honor all of our veterans who have defended our Great Nation, both past and present. Let us pray for world peace. When we stop and count what true blessings are, our family, friends and our country, let us not make worldly possessions our priority. In the Indian Spirit, James Red Cloud, Oglala Lakota said "it was our belief that the love of possessions is a weakness to be overcome. Its appeal is to the material part, and if allowed its way it will in time disturb the spiritual balance of the man." As Native People, we remember our Native ancestors and try to stay true in our beliefs. Let us be thankful for the true things in life as we embark upon the New Year.

News from Family Services

The 2008 Children's Christmas Party was well attended as we had over 150 children representing over 65 Tribal

Families. This year, the Tribe was able to provide a \$25.00 gift card per family, a large variety of great toys, a gift bag full of goodies, and a visit with Santa. Thank you for attending. Photo Included in this paper is of Gavin Leek. Gavin is the son of Joshua and Mollie Leek. Mollie DeWeese Leek is the former Princess of the Wyandotte Nation.



In 2008, several new social service programs were introduced. If you missed the announcements a brief description is as follows: Senior Citizen Energy Assistance is available October 1, 2008 through March 1, 2009. The \$100.00 payment for utility assistance is for seniors 62 years of age that reside within a 100 mile radius of the tribal headquarters. Membership Incentive Program for Infants: This new program was designed to encourage early enrollment of tribal children. The family services enrollment department will provide a \$50.00 gift card and a commemorative baby blanket with the tribal logo to those parents who turn in a membership application prior to a child's first birthday. Burial Assistance Program: The burial assistance program allows a \$500.00 payment toward burial expenses of a tribal member. All programs require completed applications and pertinent documentation. Please call Dana or Kate for details.

In addition to those new programs stated above, in August of 2008, the

Wyandotte Nation increased the radius and school supply vouchers to include those school age children residing within 200 miles of the tribal headquarters and increased the voucher from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per child. The implementation of the Wyandotte Nation Social Services Committee will enable us to meet quarterly to address the current and future needs of our tribal members.

In January of 2009, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provided 45 Oklahoma Tribal Families with home heating utility assistance. LIHEAP announcements were sent to all Oklahoma Tribal Families regarding the income requirements. This Federal Program may also be available in 2009, so we encourage all tribal members to keep their addresses current for newsletters and special mailings. Please contact Dana at extension #219 with your address update.

The Family Services Department continues to provide the following services: Tribal Tags, Child Passenger Safety Seats, Indian Child Welfare, tribal enrollment, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood cards), and Promoting Safe & Stable Family Assistance (emergency assistance, need based social services, referrals, or other identifiable programs to help prevent the breakup of at risk Native Families).

In closing, it is never too early to schedule time to make plans to attend the Wyandotte Nations 20th Annual Pow-Wow and Annual Meeting. The Pow-Wow begins Friday night, September 11th and the Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2009. Plans are underway to make this event the best we have ever had. Improvements are continuing at the new pow-wow grounds and it has been said that the Wyandotte Nation has one of the best pow-wows in Oklahoma. Just ask Chief Bearskin!

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Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

Wyandotte Nation Environmental Department

Environmental Director – Christen Lee ext. 241

Environmental Assistant – Kathleen Welch ext. 235

Environmental Tech – Janice Wilson ext. 245

Water & Education Tech – Earl Salisbury ext. 252

October thru December seems to be one of our busiest times of the year.

OCTOBER

On October 11th our department had a booth at the Bearskin Health Fair. We had several activities for kids and valuable handouts for adults that pertained to the environment. With each person that registered at our booth, a give away bag was given that contained several useful items. Approximately 200 participants registered at our booth.

Janice and Earl along with other members of the Tar Creek Trustees Council, assisted in a phase II Grand Lake Sampling Program. Samples were taken of the sediments in several locations of Grand Lake and then sent to an EPA Certified Lab to be tested for heavy metals.

Christen and Kathleen traveled to Kansas City, KS for an OU5 Spring River Meeting. The meeting consisted of presentations from various Tribal, State and Federal entities on Natural Resource Damage issues and the effects on our surface and ground waters with-in the Tri-State Mining District.

NOVEMBER

In November we switched gears and hats, and went into our education mode. On November 3rd & 5th, we attended the Fairland Elementary and Hall Halsell Elementary, Vinita, OK, and gave "RENIE the Recycle Robot" presentations and talked to the students

about the importance of recycling. The students were very receptive to us and RENIE, and both sessions were very educational.



November 7th, we took our education program to the Turtle Tot Preschool. During this presentation we talked to the preschoolers about fall and the changing of leaves. The students learned about why leaves change and had craft projects that they made and were able to take home with them.



On November 19th, Kathleen and Janice headed north to Pittsburg, KS to talk to troubled teenagers about the importance of taking care of the environment around them. This was a very rewarding program which proved to be educational not only for the students, but, also for Janice and Kathleen. The ages of the students were from 12 to 18, and all were very aware of environmental issues in their surrounding area.

The week of November 18th – 21st also found us traveling to Tulsa for the Regional Tribal Operations Committee meeting. This is a time when we can

attend break out sessions from other tribes and EPA to learn about new environmental grants and funding available.

On the evening of November 24th, Janice Wilson and Earl Salisbury conducted a Chronic Wasting Disease Class, with approximately 8 area hunters attending. A video on Chronic Wasting Disease was shown, and each person registered received a burlap target. Two deer have been tested for the disease and the hunters who provided the deer had their names placed in a drawing for a life size Styrofoam Deer Target to be given away at the end of hunting season.



DECEMBER

December is always a joyous and happy time at the Tribe. Everyone gets in the Christmas spirit, and a lot of fun is had by all. In between our regular schedule activities, we found time to eat, eat and eat some more!

Happy New Year from the Wyandotte Nation Environmental Department!

Wyandotte Nation Housing Department

The Housing Department of the Wyandotte Nation has been very busy the past few months.

It is very hard to find something to tell each of you that we do different as our job is generally pretty repetitious.

Maybe it is time to once again tell you in a little more detail how our (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

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department works.

We have several programs, for which we are responsible, in our department. There are home ownership, rental, rehabilitation and water and sanitation programs.

The first, and main program is what we call our NAHASDA program. It is our main program offered to us by the Federal Government and overseen by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The rules are set by the government - we are not responsible for making our own rules. Then there is a rehabilitation program offered to us by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. It is called HIP. This is a program which we do not have an opportunity to use often as the qualifying income guidelines are very, very, very low; however, we review all applications and place each in the category for which they qualify the best. The final program for which we are responsible is through Indian Health Service. It is a program strictly for water and sanitation purposes. We can dig a well, connect to rural water, hook up to a city sewer or put in a septic tank and drainfield. This program is not governed by income guidelines but rather by boundaries. They include the area serviced by the Tribe and the Claremore Health Hospital.

We accept all applications gladly and research them as to qualifying status. We accept applications from all Native Americans; however, the rules say we can service Wyandotte Tribal members with priority because of the low amount of money we are allotted. All applications are stamped as to the date they are received and each qualifying application is put on a waiting list - yes - there is a waiting list!!!! I wish this was not so and we could service every needy, qualifying member of the Tribe.

The applications are checked for qualifying status and then as a home becomes available, the next applicant on the list (no exceptions) is notified

and has the opportunity to be placed in a home if all qualifications are met.

It is a MARVELOUS program for our tribal members and we wish everyone that needs it could be afforded this opportunity. WE KEEP TRYING!!! Hopefully one of these days, our dreams and goals will come true. Just remember - PLEASE, if you think you might have any desire at all to participate in our program at any time - PUT IN AN APPLICATION!!! There is absolutely NO OBLIGATION and if your name is next on the list, you will be contacted and, if you still are interested and qualify, you will be given the opportunity to locate in a home.

This is a quick synopsis of our program - if you have any questions, Kathy or myself would be MORE THAN HAPPY TO HELP YOU!!! Just give us a call. Kathy's extension is 236 and mine is 239. We'll be looking for your call.

Reba Guilford, Housing Director
Wyandotte Nation Housing

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS SUMMER 2009

Again this year Wyandotte Tribal Corporation (WTC) is pleased to offer Internships for tribal members currently enrolled in a program of study at a college or university who have completed their sophomore year.

We are excited to once again be able to provide this opportunity for students with jobs that benefit not only the students but the businesses of the enterprise as well.

There will be positions available in: Casino Operations, Accounting and Finance, Information Technology and Human Resources. Locations of these jobs will be in either Wyandotte or Kansas City.

Students interested in learning more or applying for one of these positions should contact:

David Zacharias
Director of Human Resources
Wyandotte Tribal Corporation
918-678-3030 X-25
E-mail: dzacharias@wyandotte-nation.org

ELDER SERVICES

WOW, it is hard to believe that 2008 is gone and here we are well into 2009 already. We ended 2008 with a Halloween Music Party. We had smoked turkey legs for lunch, followed by a really fun costume contest. Our Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners were outstanding. Staff from our departments rescued us once again by helping us prepare the food and serve the elders with sit down dinners. We had snow that caused us to be closed the first two days of the week of our Christmas dinner just like last year but with everyone's help we pulled it off. We received big red Santa bags from the National Relief Charities for the elders. They were awesome. They were filled with house shoes, scarfs, blankets, gloves, lotion and many other neat items.



We were blessed with a brand new ceramic tile floor that was installed just in time for our Children's Christmas party. It is beautiful!

"Little" Sharon from the Bearskin Health and Wellness Center has been at our center two days per week doing a Walking Fit Program for us. The elders have really enjoyed it.

Our Valentine Party will be Thursday,
(continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

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February 12 during the noon hour. We will have music and prizes for the eldest Valentine, couple married the longest, the newlyweds, and just for fun, the one married the most times.

Brenda House, Director, Elder Services, ext. 227

Dari Ann Hunnicutt, Caregiver Specialist, ext. 253

Kandi Smith, Food Service Team Supervisor, ext. 228

Leesa Hibbard, Food Service Team, ext. 228

Lynda Wilson, Food Service Team, ext. 228

Menu, ext. 226

Planning/Development

A few months ago we applied for an Indian Community Block Grant to expand our Wellness Center, and were just notified that we were awarded the grant. We will be expanding the Wellness Center to include a gymnasium with an upstairs walking/running track, a safe room, more room for cardio and weights. We hope to be able to use the expanded facility for Community related activities and after school programs for the kids.

The infrastructure for the housing project is finally complete. This project included paved roadways, parking lots and internal water and sewer connections. The construction of housing units will be the next phase of the project.

We have received a permit for the new Water System Improvement Project involving deep well, water tower and linkage with the existing system. We began the bid process, soliciting contractors to set the water main and build the roadway to the water tower.

We are currently working with the Oklahoma Department of

the locations of the signs to be installed.

We are in the process of purchasing generators to be used at the water tower



and two lift stations, which will allow the Tribe to maintain business activity during hazardous conditions.

We are still in the process of formalizing a new Procurement Policy.

This policy will update our existing policy, and will require a much more detailed and formalized purchasing process. The policy calls for special attention to be given in selecting Tribal vendors. Tribal members who own or operate a business enterprise can be placed on the Tribal Vendors List. We request information to be sent to Julie West, jwest@wyandotte-nation.org. Regulations for procurement with federal funds require certain licenses and insurance, so please provide information via e-mail.



Transportation, to install roadway signs (Entering/Leaving Wyandotte Nation) at the boundaries of our Historic Area. The signs will be at 5 locations, with a minimal cost to the Indian Reservation Roads Program. The map below shows

Cultural & Historical News

We look forward to the New Year with a great hope and vision with what is going on within the Nation. Many things are going on with the Pow-Wow grounds, the Historical Department and Cultural Events.

Many improvements are going in at the new pow-wow grounds starting with a drain system to remove the surface water, which was a major problem last year. There will be more parking and lighting. We hope to have most of this done before pow-wow this year. The goal of the Nation and Pow-Wow Committee is to have the

best grounds in the country; it will take a few years. I would like to thank all who braved the rain and mud last year and showed your support.

The Historical Office has undergone a few changes over the past months. We have hired Ora Lea Combs, tribal member who has done a wonderful job cleaning up and organizing the office to make it easier access for members to come and visit. Ora Lea is in the process of scanning documents for a more compatible way to view historic papers rather than handling them.

The Tribe is planning another trip to

Ohio for the spring. This is for the members who would like to travel to Upper Sandusky and visit the homeland of the Wyandotte. We are limited on seating so it will be a first come first serve. We ask that you not bring children who need car seats, and the tribe will pay only for the tribal member, not spouses. If you opt to bring your spouse, you will need to provide your own transportation.

For dates and more information, please contact, Sherri Clemons at 1-800-256-2539, extension 244.

Education Department

Preschool:

Pre-school enrollment has increased to a record number with fifty-eight students enrolled in our program. Pre-school Thanksgiving was attended by a large number of staff, family members and students. The students and staff attended two plays in December. One was held at Missouri Southern in Joplin, Missouri and the other was held at Crowder College in Neosho, Missouri. The children continue to advance in abilities as they participate in physical education classes and Wyandotte language classes. The Christmas parties, programs and visit from Santa included much fun and were enjoyed by all in attendance. Second semester began on January 5, 2009 and plans are underway for attending spring theater productions in Joplin, Missouri.

Before and After School Program:

The before and after school programs are busy on a daily basis as we transport around six children to school each morning and we have approximately twenty-five in the afternoon. The addition of a Nintendo Wii has added much excitement to the afterschool program.

Library:

New books and video selections are added regularly. A membership to our library is available upon completion of an application and it can be the key for you to enjoy all we have to offer.

Child Care & Development Fund Program:

The federal report that was submitted in December to reflect the Child Care program accomplishments revealed that the Wyandotte Nation serviced 399 children in fiscal year 2008. Those children were part of the 233 families that received child care subsidy through the Wyandotte Nation.

Assistance is based on income and applicants must reside within a 100-mile radius of tribal headquarters.

Tribal Scholarships:

Grades are coming in as the current students are fulfilling the requirements to be funded for the spring semester. I had an opportunity to re-acquaint myself with Barbara Aston during the National Indian Education Association meeting in Seattle, Washington. Barbara was one of the first scholarship recipients of the Wyandotte Nation and is now a faculty member at Eastern Washington State University.



The master's degree scholarship program is funding three students at present time. Leslie Zane is the most recent addition. It is indeed a privilege to work with students of this caliber.

The Vocational Education funding has been of assistance to the tribal members as they begin to gain new career skills or enhance those they already possess.

Housing applications have been sent to students who live in the following states: 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):

The WIA program is partnering with other local WIA programs to streamline their offerings and to service more individuals through networking. New ideas for funding and expenditures have been researched and the WIA specialist is working with local service agencies to disseminate information.

Interested individuals must reside in Barry, Barton, Lawrence, Newton, Jasper, Dade and McDonald County in Missouri or Crawford and Cherokee counties in Kansas and be a member of a federally recognized tribe.

If you are interested in applying, contact Arthur at ext 234.

Submitted by:
Carla Culver



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



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

The Wyandotte Nation would like to honor the eldest living Tribal member. Please complete this form and return to the address listed if you are a Wyandotte Nation Tribal member aged 92 or greater, or if you have a living relative who falls within this age category.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return to:

Wyandotte Nation
Tribal Enrollment
64700 E Hwy 60
Wyandotte, OK 74370



Wyandotte Nation 2009 Summer Youth Program



The Wyandotte Nation Government is seeking Wyandotte Nation Tribal Members to fill positions for the 2009 Summer Youth Program.

Criteria for this program:

- ✓ **Entering the 11th or 12th grade in the Fall of 2009;**
 - ✓ **2009 High School Graduates**
- ✓ **Holds a Wyandotte Nation CDIB Card;**
- ✓ **Have dependable transportation to and from work;**
- ✓ **Ability to fulfill the requirements of the assigned position;**
- ✓ **Pass a physical, background check and drug screen.**

Eligible applicants will work 40 hours per week at \$7.50/hr. Current assignments are available in the following areas: Turtle Trax Print Shop, Bearskin Fitness Center, Wyandotte Nation Administration and Education Departments. Summer Program will began the Monday following the last day of school.

For more information, contact Mary Ann Hayworth, HR Director Wyandotte Nation Government; 800-256-2539, x 220 or email: mahayworth@wyandotte-nation.org; or fax: 918-678-2944. Applications are available at the Wyandotte Nation Administration Office located at 64700 E. Hwy. 60, Wyandotte, OK 74370.

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

