

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



© VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3

August 2007

Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting

The Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting will be held on September 8, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Artie Nesvold Community Center.

Cultural Days will be held Wednesday, September 5 through September 7, 2007 (see page 3 for schedule of events).

Public Notice

The Election Committee of the Wyandotte Nation has determined there are no open posts for elective office within the government of the Wyandotte Nation. Therefore, it is not necessary to hold an annual election which would occur during the time of the Tribe's Annual Meeting on

September 8, 2007. Elective posts will not be available until September, 2009. The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, September 8th and the Grand Entry of the Pow-Wow will be at 1:30 p.m. The Pow-wow will be held at the Peoria Pow-Wow grounds, the same place it was held last year.

2007 Wyandotte Nation Annual Pow-Wow

It is with deep regret to inform everyone the new pow-wow grounds will not be ready this year due to the rains. It will be held at the Peoria Pow-wow grounds in Miami, OK. We are grateful to the Peoria Tribe for this offering. The work will continue and we will be ready for next year. If you are planning to attend the pow-wow and need directions, feel free to contact my office at extension 244. I hope to see everyone there. We are still looking for tribal members who are serving in the armed forces over seas. If you would like to honor them during the veteran's special Saturday night, please sign them up. See page 11 for times and schedule of events.

Sherri Clemons
Wyandotte Nation

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
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The Chief Says



Chief Leaford Bearskin

Our first quarterly report on the

new casino has been submitted to our Board of Directors. All indications of success are confirmed by the staff in charge of the casino. We have received compliments from both local visitors and people from all over the United States who have visited us.

Our Kansas City, Kansas, casino is progressing on schedule and is expected to be as successful as our Wyandotte Nation Casino. We are expecting it to be open for gaming before the first of next year.

Each of our Department Heads is submitting articles for each of our Turtle Talk newsletters. It is

our way of letting all of our members know what goes on in our daily activities. Please read all of these articles and feel free to call our Department Heads if you have any questions about our activities. We want to keep you informed of what we are doing.

If any of you have a newsworthy item about your family, send it to us for publication in the Turtle Talk. If any of your children has an outstanding event happen to them, send it to us for publication. We want everyone to know that our tribal members are outstanding.

From Billy Friend - Second Chief



Kweh,

“We, the People of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, pursuant to our inherent sovereignty, in order to form a more efficient and effective government, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, secure our rights, promote the general welfare, provide for continued tribal existence and fundamental governing principals, sustain our culture, and secure the natural and self-evident right to govern ourselves, to perform essential governmental functions, as defined in Article 3, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Wyandotte Tribe of

Oklahoma.”

The previous paragraph was taken from the Wyandotte Nation's Constitution preamble. Over the past several months I have had the opportunity to travel and speak to various groups about the Wyandotte Nation and what I have learned is that for the most part people who are not of Indian descent have no idea what we are about. I was recently speaking to a group of business owners in Kansas City, Kansas, and was explaining to them the role and function of our tribal government, the essential functions that we perform, and how we are a sovereign government with a government-to-government relationship with not only the federal government but also with state governments. The majority of those in attendance came up to me after my presentation and told me that they had no idea that was what an Indian tribe did. Most people when they think of Indian tribes only associate us with casinos

and gaming, not functional governments. The fact is that we are a sovereign nation and you and I are citizens of this great nation. Many refer to us as members of a tribe, but a member to me is someone that belongs to a country club or a civic group, we are citizens of the Wyandotte Nation.

I want to encourage you to study and learn about our history and culture. We have a great web site that has been put together by Lloyd Divine one of our own tribal members who has a great passion for the history of our Nation. For those that have never visited the site it is www.wyandotte-nation.org. Also, I would like to encourage all that can to participate in the cultural activities that will take place prior to our general council meeting and Powwow.

As always it is a great privilege and honor for me to serve you as Second Chief and I look forward to seeing you at our general council meeting in September.

WYANDOTTE CULTURAL DAYS 2007

Wednesday, September 5

6:00 p.m. Traditional Dinner at Title 6 Building
Social Time

Noon Lunch – Title 6 Building

Thursday, September 6

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayers on The Hill
to 9:00 a.m. (behind Fitness Center)

1 p.m. Know Your Nation – Presentation by
Second Chief Billy Friend at Title 6
Building

9:30 a.m. Language Program by Students

1:30 p.m. Show & Tell Time – at Title 6 Building

10:30 a.m. For Cultural Days Attendees and Chiefs at
Wyandotte Elementary School –
Wyandotte, Oklahoma

2:30 p.m. Field Trips (around the Wyandotte
area)

11:00 a.m. Language – Review from Children’s
Program at Fitness Center
(or Title 6 Building)

5:00 p.m. Supper on Your Own

Noon Lunch – at Title 6 Building

7 p.m. Wyandotte Pow Wow – Peoria Pow
Wow Grounds

1 p.m. Elders Roundtable – at Title 6 Building

2:30 or 3:00 p.m. Wyandotte History -- at Title 6 Building
to 5 p.m. Kansas Years – Darren English
Early Oklahoma Years – 1860 to 1920 -
Lloyd Divine and Juanita McQuiston

What attendees will receive:
Wyandotte Language Pronunciation CD
“Said The Old Ones” story book (41 stories – English)
Wyandotte Public School Language Class DVD
Collection of History Handouts
Language Book by Dr. Bruce Pearson

6 p.m. Picnic Supper on the Hill
(fried chicken/potato salad, etc.)
Social Time



Turtle Tots trip to Cherokee Heritage Center - June 28, 2007

Friday, September 7

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayers – The Hill

9:00 a.m. Language Study – Fitness Center
(Dr. Bruce Pearson)

Can anyone identify any of these people in the photos?



Casino News



by Trudie Pendergraft

Lucky Turtle Casino had a great 3rd Anniversary. Starting out with Chief Leaford Bearskin and 2nd Chief Billy Friend cutting and serving cake at 1 o'clock. From 6-10 p.m. there were Hot Seat Drawings for \$333.00 and random Hot Seat Drawings for prizes and free t-shirts. It was a fun filled night for all.

For June a \$10.00 Free Play for Casino Employees, from midnight till 4 a.m. Sunday thru Thursday was added. This is bringing in some action to the Casino during a slow time, donuts are also served from 8 a.m. till 11:00 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings and Pop Corn from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. on the same days.

A Riding Lawn Mower was given to the lucky winner Tammy Marker on June 17, 2007. Her whole family plays regularly at the Lucky Turtle Casino.

Middle of June there was an employee cookout for our hard working employees. We really appreciate how they give good service and keep our Little Casino clean. We want to thank the maintenance crew for putting up the tent, it kept us dry and kept our spirits from being dampened.

July came in with a bang, with Hot Seat drawings for fire works on the 2nd & 3rd of July and one lucky winner will be taking a Freezer & Meat package home on July 25th.

August brings clear weather so it's still good for outdoor cooking. Come in and play and sign up to win a Grill. September is getting closer to fall so we have a Sporty Recon 4-Wheeler on display to give away on September 26th, so get yourself set for a fun summer and fall at The Lucky Turtle Casino.



by Jim Hunt

Your new Wyandotte Nation Casino was 90 days old on July 16, 2007. The casino is doing well with its 520 slot machines, 8 blackjack tables and 5 poker tables. The Twin Bridges Restaurant is going great guns, serving terrific lunches and dinners. The patio portion of the restaurant has proven to be a great place for guests to gather and have a meal or listen to one of the local bands that play on selected weekends.

We have thousands of our guests who have signed up for Club Wyandotte and are now part of the Club, reaping great rewards for their play.

We have featured our Grand Opening Summer giveaway this summer, giving away a beautiful pontoon boat, a 7 day Alaskan cruise and will end in late August with the giveaway of the red convertible Mustang.

We have now put most all of our Supervisors, and Managers through a two day training class, providing them with the tools to be better leaders for both Wyandotte Nation Casino and Lucky Turtle Casino.

The Lucky Turtle Casino celebrated it's 3 year anniversary in May.

The Kansas City Kansas casino is full of activity led by Crossland Construction Company on site working on remodeling the 150 year old building from the basement to the roof.

We plan on opening the modern casino in late fall of this year. We will keep you posted on our progress as summer marches on.

Movie Search

We are casting for a feature film to be shot late 2008 and early 2009. This period piece is set in Tennessee and North Carolina in the mid to late 1700's; the beginning of the Cherokee removal. This screenplay is based on a 6 1/2 year study. We are staying true to the REAL history. For those that are familiar with Cherokee history the story is set around Little Carpenter, Old Tassel, Oconostota, Dragging Canoe, Isaac Thomas and Nancy Ward. We are looking for fresh faces 18-80. A strong resume in theater and acting is required but WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR KNOWN ACTORS. We believe that with known actors the public will come in with preconceived ideas of the characters and the story. This is Part 1 of the trilogy that will end with part 3 in 1842.

The lead woman and 2 men will progress in age covering dates from 1755 at age 18 to age 45 in 1780 +/- Wild rose - Native American Female 5' 6" +/- Eastern Native American look. Strong, muscular athletic, 18-35.

Dragging Canoe - Male 6', 200 lbs. +/- Strong, muscular, athletic, 18-35. Isaac - Male 6' 5" +/- with Anglo features but with Cherokee traits and features Strong, muscular and athletic. 18-35. This will be authentic dress some full, partial and implied nudity will occur.

Many other supporting roles are also available. Send Head shot and full body shots front, rear and side view.

For male and female lead roles send photos in swim attire front, rear, and side.

All parts will not require nudity so state the amount of nudity you are comfortable with on your resume. No glamour shots! We are looking for The Real People!

The top ten candidates will be sent a script and called in for a reading and screen test. Readings and shootings will take place in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

Send resumes with cell numbers and email address and pictures and/or web page address to larry@filmservices.com

Thank you,
Larry Thomas

Member News

Rookie of the Year



Officer Ben Andrews, a member of the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma and a past Wyandotte Scholarship Recipient, was recently named Rookie of the Year by the City of Hurst, Texas, where he is employed.

Officer Andrews graduated from the University of North Texas in 2003 with a degree in Criminal Justice and was immediately hired upon graduation by the City of Hurst. He is currently attending the University of Texas at Arlington for a master's degree in Public Administration. Officer Andrews is currently assigned to the patrol division. He has recently become a member of the tactical team and a field training officer. He was largely influenced to become a police officer by his father, who was a reserve officer at the Euless and Roanoke, Texas, Police Departments in the early 1990s.

Although Ben grew up in Texas, he came each year to visit the Wyandotte Tribal Center with his family and to see Chief Bearskin. He graduated from Colleyville Heritage High School in 2000, and applied for and received a Wyandotte Scholarship. "My scholarship helped me pay for my books and other needs during my undergraduate work. I appreciate the financial assistance from the tribe and the encouragement that Mrs. Culver gave me to do my best. I want to thank Chief Bearskin and all the staff for their

work in helping make the Wyandotte Nation the best. I hope that our nation will be able to offer scholarships for many years to come because they certainly help students prepare for their careers. The scholarship program lays a strong foundation for the future of the Wyandotte Nation," he says.

Ben and his wife, Kristin, have a son, Holden Curtis Andrews who will be two in September, and are expecting another son in November. They reside in Keller, Texas.

Active Duty

If you have or know of a Wyandotte Nation member who is serving in the military and is over seas, the Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow Committee would like to honor them. Saturday evening we have a special dedication to the veterans and read their name and any information they choose to release for public knowledge. We understand these heroes can't be here, but we would love to include their names and honor them along with the rest of the veterans. We would also like to send them a gift for their bravery in the freedom they give us everyday. Please send your information to:

Wyandotte Nation
ATTN: Sherri Clemons
64790 E. Hwy 60
Wyandotte, OK 74370

Roll # 2167

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.

Appreciated

As a tribal member I would like to thank all Wyandotte Nation social departments for all the hard work they do to ease the lives of the Wyandotte members. From health care and wellness awareness, to new homes to school supplies, the list goes on and on. The benefits we as tribal members receive are a blessing to so many of us. I know many families have been fortunate enough to receive health care, medicine, eye glasses, and trips to the dentist. We have received new homes; new wells after lighting struck it and help to fix older homes when funds were available. During the ice storm families who lost power were given vouchers for gas, food vouchers and were given lodging in motels. Families with children receive school supply vouchers to help with the high cost of putting kids through school today, not to mention the availability of free pre-school for Wyandotte's children. These children are not set in front of a television and left all day, they are taught many different things from math to social etiquette. Culture is also taught in the Turtle tots program.

The Wyandotte Nation may not be the biggest or the richest, but they are one of the most caring tribes in the country. They truly care for and about the members. I am very blessed to be a member and thankful for the bright future of my children and grand children.

Thank you Chief Bearskin, Second Chief Billy Friend, Board of Directors, and the many employees at the Wyandotte Nation.

Sincerely,
Sherri Clemons
Wyandotte Nation

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

Tribal Department Reports

Environmental Department

The Wyandotte Nation Environmental Department entered its busiest time of the year. With the warm weather comes a lot of outside water activities. The 1st week of May found Janice Wilson and Kathleen Welch heading south to Bandera, Texas, for a Water Quality Assessment Workshop, while Christen headed to Talequah, OK, for a HAZWOPPER Training. From there it got even busier with our monthly ambient water testing sites and various meetings to attend.

June did not slow down any at all! The 5th through the 8th found Kathleen Welch and Sherri Clemons traveling back & forth for a Missouri Native American Workshop with the Missouri Army Corp of Engineers and the Missouri National Guard. This week also found Janice traveling to Taos, New Mexico, for the RTOC/Tribal Caucus. We then jumped into the Summer Youth Program on the 11th of June with teaching 6-9 yr. olds students from the Tribal Summer Program, about their Watershed and the affects pollution has on everyone within the Watershed boundaries. On the 12th we taught the 10-12 yr. old students about macro-invertebrates. June 15th we enjoyed the Employee Picnic at the Carousel Park in Joplin, MO. Thank you, Chief Bearskin, Sherri Clemons and Wyandotte Nation for this day of fun and relaxation. On June 28th our department traveled with the Education Department and their students to the Cherokee Nation and its Ancient Village at Talequah. Thank you, the Education Department and Family Services for asking us to go along and join in the fun. The recent heavy amounts of rain has caused us to cancel and reschedule our water testing activities and bio assessments several times.

July has started off with a bang! The week of July 9-13th found Christen traveling to Washington D.C. for environmental issues.

July 9th & 10th found Janice Traveling to Tulsa for the 12th Annual ITEC

Conference.

On July 9th a Pubic Meeting was held in the Elders Building at 6:00 p.m to discuss regulatory issues on the Seneca, Missouri Wastewater Treatment Facility.

July 18th & 19th is the Wetlands Training hosted by the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

July 19th & 20th will find our office traveling to Pittsburg, Kansas, for the Kansas Mussel Workshop.

If the rain holds out we should be able to get back on track with our monthly water monitoring sampling schedule.

The Environmental Department would like to remind all Tribal members within a 50 mile radius, that tribal well bacteria testing is available free of charge. Please contact Janice Wilson or Kathleen Welch to schedule an appointment.

Contact Information:

Christen Lee (Environmental Director) Ext. 241

Kathleen A. Welch (Environmental Assistant) 235

Janice Wilson (Environmental Water & Education Tech) Ext. 245

Family Services

Kweh! As summer moves forward in Northeast Oklahoma we continue to be in a rather unsettled weather pattern. We are not alone there! After a very late spring freeze, a very rainy monsoon weather pattern set in causing disaster flooding in Kansas and Oklahoma. If you have been to the Wyandotte Tribal Headquarters you would be familiar with "Twin Bridges", a State Park wherein the Spring River and the Neosho River, just to name a few, flow into the Grand Lake of the Cherokees. The combination of Kansas rains, as well as, local flooding attributed to the declared disaster. Local residents remain in awe of the magnitude of this rain and old timers have compared it to the "flood of 1951". As native Oklahomans, the saying goes "stick around, the weather could change tomorrow". Our prayers are with all who have to rebuild their longhouses, relocate, or are otherwise distressed due to acts of

Mother Nature.

Family Services: Summer Activities

Speaking of rebuilding our longhouses, in this edition of the Turtle Speaks, a photograph is included as our summer youth camp participants made a traditional longhouse. As sycamore bark was available in our area we used it in lieu of bark made of cedar, ash, elm, spruce and fir more commonly found in the Great Lake areas. Our replicas were quite small compared to the longhouses of your Wyandotte ancestors that were said to be eighty feet in length and twenty feet wide.



The June, 2007 youth camp activities wrapped up with a trip to Tahlequah, Oklahoma, to visit the Cherokee Nation Heritage Center. Forty of our Turtle Tots ages 8-12 and fourteen adults made the June 28th trip. We toured the facility and the children were particularly interested in the ancient village. The village consisted of the Cherokee primitive housing, council house, basket making techniques, and early pottery demonstrations. Many Native American Tribes used what available materials and food sources were available in their specific areas for both their food and housing needs. Although this village may not have been specific to the Wyandotte ways, it was none the less very educational for the children to witness the early ways of Indian People. The June afternoon camp is hosted by the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center Staff, Preschool Staff, and Family Services. Family Services Staff says "Tizameh" to all that helped with the program.

The Ottawa County area tribes hosted a three day Native American Youth Camp (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

July 17-19th for Native children ages 8-12. A safety day was held at the Ottawa/Peoria Cultural Center in Miami Oklahoma on July 17th. On July 18th, the children visited a Tulsa, Oklahoma, Planetarium and had pizza for lunch. The grand finale was an exciting day in Branson, Missouri, at the Silver Dollar City theme park. Ten Wyandotte tribal children attended the camp, along with 90 other native children, parents and the tribal sponsors who helped fund the camp. It was an exciting week for all of us.

Family Service Programs:

School supply vouchers will be available August 1, 2007. In order to apply for school supply vouchers Wyandotte children age's preschool through the 12th grade must reside within a 100 mile radius of the Wyandotte Nation. Applications will be available at the tribal headquarters or you may request an application by mail.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), a federally funded energy assistance program, will be offered this winter for Oklahoma residents that meet income guidelines. Specific information will follow in the 4th quarter newsletter.

Through the Promoting Safe and Stable Family Initiative 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. It is our goal to keep our families intact and assist you in meeting the needs of our children.

Tribal Operations:

TRIBAL ENROLLMENT DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15, 2007. Tribal enrollment applications should be postmarked no later than August 15th 2007, for an individual to be considered for membership by vote at the September 8, 2007, annual meeting. All eligible enrollees will receive their membership cards during the month of October. The Wyandotte Nation Enrollment Committee will review all applications.

Tribal Tags:

Tribal tags may be purchased at the tribal headquarters or through the postal service. To better serve our tribal members we do ask that you call to schedule an appointment if you are coming to the tribal headquarters to purchase your new or renewal tags. For new tags you must have the following. (1) Original State Title (signed and notarized) (2) Insurance verification (3) Wyandotte Nation Membership Card. For renewals you must have the following: (1) A current insurance verification. Motorcycle tags are now available.

Child Passenger Safety Seats:

The child passenger safety seats are still available at the tribal headquarters for eligible or enrolled children of tribal members. Currently available is infant rear facing 5-22 pounds, convertible 5-40 pounds that are rear or forward facing, turbo booster for 40-100 pounds and the high back booster for 22-80 pounds. This program is funded through tribal tag revenues.

Buckle up and stay safe!!! Hope to see you in September for our Annual Meeting and Pow-wow Festivities.

Planning/Development Department July 2007

The last several months the Tribe has submitted several grants. One grant was to the Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Department for bullet proof vests and other supplies for our police department. One grant was submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Indian Community Block Grant Program for improvements to the Tribe's water system and construction of a new water tower. The other grant submitted was to the Oklahoma Arts Council to help fund the annual pow wow. These funds will help with pow wow book printing costs and head staff.

This Spring has seen many construction projects begin for the Wyandotte Nation and it is an exciting time for everyone. Current projects are the expansion of the pre-school, construction of the

infrastructure improvements for the housing project, construction of the new pow wow grounds and continuation of roadway elements construction including sidewalk east of the Turtle Stop.

The construction on the pre-school addition continues in spite of all the rain we have had this year. The walls are up and the trusses are in place. Pictures are included below.



Walls on the Pre-School Addition.



Trusses are up and the roof is going on the Pre-School addition.



Progress on the Pre-School addition.

Construction has started on the housing infrastructure project behind the Tribal offices. This will be the construction of sewer, water, electric and roads/parking area for a housing addition. Pictures of progress are continued on next page.

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

Survey lines are up ready for construction.



The official moving of dirt has begun.



Construction on the new pow wow grounds has also begun. Activities on this project were held up by the rains in the last several months but now some progress is being made. Pictures of this are shown below.

New pow wow grounds.



Construction on pow wow grounds.



Construction has also begun on a

sidewalk by the Turtle Stop. This will allow pedestrians to walk without having to walk in the street. Pictures are shown below.



Form for the new sidewalk.



Concrete poured for new sidewalk.

The Planning/Development Department welcomed a new person to our staff, Garold Alumbaugh is the new facilities supervisor for the Wyandotte Nation. Welcome aboard Garold!

TITLE VI News

ELDER SERVICES

Encompass Home Health and Heaven and Earth Hospice held a picnic at the Civic Center in Miami June 19. Dari and Brenda along with 8 or 10 of the Elders attended. We had a very nice dinner. They had hula hoop contests, cake walks, horse shoe contests, and much more. The entertainment was great. Duke Mason, who sounds just like Elvis, performed. They gave a lot of really nice door prizes, donated by area businesses, as well as, the Quapaw and Wyandotte Casinos. We also attended the Sr. Olympics at the Ottawa Tribal Complex, June 22. They had a cookout, door prizes, wheel chair

races, hula hoop contests, horse shoes, Indian dice, and local law enforcement had a golf cart for them to drive while wearing distorted goggles (to resemble what a drunk driver would be seeing) to see how well they could maneuver around the orange cones. It was hilarious! Everyone had a great time.

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

CAREGIVER

Dari attended the Quapaw Tribal Health Fair July 5. She gave information to participants about the Caregiver Program.

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

Alexandra Boyd Food Service Team ext. 228

Kandi Smith, Food Service Team Ext. 228

Vonda Keller Food Service Team Ext. 228

Menu: Ext. 226

Wyandotte Nation Tag Office

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

Education Department

Preschool:

Preschool graduation was held in the Wyandotte Public School Gymnasium May 17th. Four of our students made the Kumon In-School Honor Roll: Trevor Combes, Trace Arnold, Ronnie Weisinger, and Caleb Garcia. Kumon is the math program we have used in our preschool for several years. Ranked number one student for the pre-kindergarten group nation wide was Trevor Combes. Trevor is a Wyandotte tribal member and the son of Wesley and Dawna Combes. Trevor worked extremely hard and is very deserving of this honor. School will begin August 16th for the 2007-2008 school year. If you are interested in your child attending preschool, please contact the Education Office at Ext. 230.

Construction is underway for an addition to our existing childcare facility. The building will house five classrooms, and a large activity room. The activity room has a high ceiling to accommodate basketball and volleyball games. We were hoping to move in just before school starts, but with the abundance of rain we have had in Northeastern Oklahoma our moving date will be delayed. We are excited about the extra room as we are very crowded for the summer program and our after-school program.

Summer Program:

Last day of school was May 22nd, therefore; we began our summer program May 23rd. with over 100 children enrolled. Our daily average is approximately 65 plus children. Activities for the month of June were:

Cultural programs - provided by Family Services department which included a trip to Tahlequah to visit the Cherokee Cultural Center.

Environmental Programs

Just for Kids Program

Fishing at the Neosho Fish Hatchery

Springfield Zoo

Swimming Pool Rentals and wading pool trips

Activities for the Month of July were:

Swimming lessons

Bowling and movies

Swimming Pool rentals and wading pool trip

Discovery Center in Springfield, Missouri

Air and Space Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma

Just for Kids Day at the Miami Park

Vacation Bible School



Trevor Combes - Ranked # 1 for pre-kindergarten group nation wide.

Summer Program will end August 15th with school starting the 16th.. We have several fun activities planned for the month of August.

Library:

The Wyandotte Tribal Library is open from 8:00am to 4:30pm 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. We want to thank the library staff for their cooperation with our summer program as we have had to make use of their facility.

Child Care & Development Fund Program:

The Child Care Program is currently serving 143 families, which includes 81 Wyandottes. We utilize 74 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. We have just finished writing our childcare plan which will be in effect for the next two years when approval process is complete.

(continued on next page)

Educational Department continued.....

(continued from previous page)

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:

Applications for the school year 2007-2008 have been received in the Education Office. Those receiving scholarships have been notified and checks will be disbursed by the middle of August. If you are a continuing student, and have not sent your grades for the spring semester and your schedule for the fall semester, please do so immediately. Checks will not be processed until these items are received in the Education Office. 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.

Those completing eight semester with the Wyandotte Nation Scholarship Program are:

Michelle Gray – San Antonio, Texas - Michelle completed an internship with Film & Music Entertainment LTD in London, England.

Bryan Deshayes – Los Alamos, New Mexico – majoring in Mechanical Engineer, Project Management and Business.

Tyler Hews – Van Buren, Maine – majoring in Physical Therapy.

Magen Wright Genzler – Republic, Missouri

Lea Baldwin – Wyandotte, Oklahoma – Lea graduated as a registered nurse in May and is currently working at Freeman Hospital in Neosho, Missouri.

Congratulations to scholarship recipient Ian Packard for receiving the Missouri State University Multi-cultural Leadership Scholarship. This Scholarship is available to all Native American students who are attending MSU. If you are interested in this scholarship, please contact the office of Student Financial Aid at 417.836.5262 or 1.800.283.4243.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA):

Arthur Anderson is now administering the WIA Program. Arthur was previously employed by the Wyandotte Public School System as a Para Professional for the Native American Program. He has previous experience working with Native American students. Arthur will be a great addition to the Education staff and we are looking forward to working with him. Arthur and Carla will be attending the new administrators training July 30th through August 3rd in Pala, California. 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 Mr. Anderson at Ext. 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

POW-WOW CONTEST SCHEDULE

Friday 8:00 p.m.	Saturday 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	Sunday 2:00 p.m.
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Friday, September 7
Evening

Jr. Girl's Buckskin
Jr. Boy's Straight
Women's Fancy Shawl
Men's Grass

FRIDAY NIGHT

49 Contest
Jennifer Lunsford
Coordinator

ALL SPECIALS
HELD SATURDAY
AFTERNOON
CONTACT
THE ARENA
DIRECTOR
FOR
ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION

Saturday, September 8
Afternoon

Jr. Girl's Jingle
Women's Cloth
Jr. Boy's Fancy
Men's Traditional

Saturday, September 8
Evening

Tiny Tots
Jr. Girl's Cloth
Men's Fancy
Jr. Boys Grass
Women's Buckskin
Two Step
Stomp Dance

Gourd Dancing
1 hour prior to
all sessions.

Sunday, September 9
Afternoon

Jr. Girl's Fancy Shawl
Men's Straight
Women's Jingle
Jr. Boy's Traditional

SUNDAY MORNING

Children's Games &
Obstacle Course
(Ages 3-12)

SPECIAL
GRANDPARENT DAY
HONOR
DANCE
PRIZES
FOR THE OLDEST
GRANDMOTHER AND
GRANDFATHER
PRESENT

Location: Peoria Pow-Wow Grounds
3 mi. East of Miami, OK at County Road 137 and College farm road (E-90 Road)
(Just 4 mi. South of Quapaw, OK on County Road 137)

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