

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



Presorted Standard
POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 4
Wyandotte, OK 74370

© VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

November 2008



2008 Pow-Wow Honored Person



Mr. W. R. "Bill" Neely is the Police Chief for the Wyandotte Nation. He started his career in Law Enforcement part-time for the town of Wyandotte in 1970. In 1988 he became a full-time deputy for the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department. Then in 1995 he was asked to fill the position of Police Chief for the Wyandotte Nation. He has helped obtain grants for patrol cars, search

and rescue A.T.V.'s, police supplies, and items needed to run a successful department. He has put in many long hours of training and made many tribal and law enforcement contacts all over the United States. He serves and protects not only the Wyandotte Nation, but the entire Wyandotte community. He has also served 25 years on the City Council of the Town of Wyandotte and Water Board. Police Chief Bill Neely has built up an outstanding reputation among law enforcement agencies of our four-state area. He is an ideal police officer and a role model for all police officers to follow. Not only is Chief Neely dedicated to his career, he is a dedicated family man. He and his wife, Sue, have been married for 45 years. He has one daughter and three grand-daughters. He is there for his family whether it's for a helping hand, advice, or just a hug. His family loves him very much. His hobbies are fishing, camping, and giving his grand-daughters rides in the lawnmower trailer.



Gyah'-wish Atak-ia

Wyandotte Nation
Board of Directors
Leaford Bearskin

Chief

Billy Friend

Second Chief

Ramona Reid

Councilperson

Vivian Fink

Councilperson

Norman Hildebrand

Councilperson

Juanita McQuiston

Councilperson

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia is published quarterly for tribal members by the Wyandotte Nation at its headquarters in Wyandotte, Oklahoma. Inquiries may be addressed to:

The Wyandotte Nation
64700 E Hwy 60
Wyandotte, OK 74370
(918) 678-2297 or
(800) 256-2539
fax (918) 678-2944

(C) Copyright 2008. All information, photographs, and other materials are copyrighted, and may not be reproduced without prior written consent of the Wyandotte Nation.

Contents.....

Letter from the Chiefs	2
Editorial	3
Casino News	4
Member News	5-6
Tribal Vendors	7
Tribal Department Reports ..	8-11
Education Department	12 -13
Pow-Wow Pictures	14
Schedule of Events	15
Services Provided	16

The Chief Says



Chief Leaford Bearskin

Our holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas are fast approaching. At each of our Thanksgivings since 1983 we have been blessed by our Great Spirit for so many things that have happened to us. We have been blessed with an

outstanding Board of Directors; we have been blessed with outstanding Department Heads; we have been blessed with outstanding employees; and we have been blessed with outstanding support from all of our tribal members. All of these attributes are essential to the successful accomplishments we have experienced since 1983.

We held our Pow-Wow at our new location and were amazed at the number of people that attended. Our new pow-wow grounds are located about three miles east of our tribal headquarters on Highway 60 on the south side of the road. We are striving to have the best pow-wow grounds in the State of Oklahoma.

We had a record number of people at our Annual Meeting and everyone was pleased at our progress this past year. We urge all our tribal members to attend our Annual Meeting and to get involved

in our tribal affairs and contribute to our success.

We are interested in getting our young folks to become involved in learning our history, our traditions, and customs of our past. We have a rich history of leadership among neighboring American Indian tribes. At least twice in our history we were known as "Keepers of the Council Fire" among our many surrounding tribes. This was a prideful achievement by all standards of conduct of long ago.

We Wyandotte have always been leaders among our people. Be proud of your heritage. You have every right to be proud.

Our Great Spirit has visited us at all our Christmases since 1983 as well. He has been the guiding force behind us all. Let's remember Him and ask for His guidance for all our summers and winters to come.

From Billy Friend - Second Chief



Kweh,

I hope this quarter's Turtle Talk finds all Wyandotte citizens doing well. I want to say that I appreciate everyone that participated in our Annual Meeting. It was one of the most well attended meetings that we have had. Our Pow-Wow was also a great success, even though the weather was not completely cooperative. Sherri Clemons

and her volunteer staff did an outstanding job working through the elements to make this annual event a great success. To each of you I say "tizameh".

The past several months, Chief and I have had the privilege of representing the Nation at several historical events. Chief Bearskin had the honor of blessing the opening of the American Indian Museum and Cultural Center in Oklahoma City with a traditional smoking of the facility.

I had the honor of speaking at the dedication of the Quindaro Ruins Overlook Monument in Kansas City, Kansas on

September 13th. The Quindaro Township was a free state river port and was named for Nancy Brown Guthrie, whose Wyandotte was Seh Quindaro. Quindaro's anti-slavery sentiment and position immediately across the Missouri River from the State of Missouri made it a natural stop on the Underground Railroad. Assisting runaway slaves was illegal, a hanging offense, in Kansas Territory under the Fugitive Slave Law. However, abolitionists living in the area continued efforts to assist slaves escaping from Missouri. The slaves were reportedly brought across the river on (continued on next page)



Editorial



Kim Garcia

The Wyandotte Cultural Days for 2008 turned out to be a great success. We had several new families that have never attended any culture event in the past. We were very pleased to have them join us and teach us as well. During the traditional dinner on Wednesday evening, we doubled the numbers from last year. It was a fun time of fellowship. The language class with Dr. Bruce Pearson was quite educational and everyone

enjoyed working together to put together a story. Richard Zane Smith and his wife Carol did a tremendous job during the language assembly with the children at the Wyandotte Elementary School. It really makes me very proud to hear our language being sung by all the children (and also a bit embarrassed that the children know more than I do). Tribal member, Brenda Lamb taught us the art of loom beading. The history lesson presented by Lloyd Divine gave all of us a better understanding of where the Wyandottes came from. Prayer time each day was a time of reflection and praying for those that could not make it. The dinner on Thursday night and social dancing was great fun. On

Friday, we joined in a Talking Circle where it was realized that we have all struggled with our somewhat lost identity of being a Wyandotte and how we can recuperate that and make it better for our children. We heard from Second Chief Billy Friend about where the Tribe is today and we had a Show-and-Tell time of Wyandotte artifacts. This all lead up into the Pow-Wow on Friday evening. I would love to see more members attending and/or involved in planning the events. If you are interested in helping out, whether it be serving food or cleaning up to teaching a class, please contact me at 918-678-2297 extension 217 or email me at kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org.

Second Chief (continued)

(continued from previous page)
small boats and by secret runs on the ferry.

Even today, the archeological ruins serve as a monument to racial harmony and to freedom. They have cultural and historical value for the descendants of the Wyandotte Nation who once owned and occupied the site and for African Americans whose ancestors once looked to Quindaro as a gateway to freedom. I was honored to represent not only the Wyandotte Nation but also my family, as we are also

descendants of Adam Brown who would have been the grandfather of Nancy "Quindaro" Brown.

Once again, as we see the seasons changing and the beauty of the fall season around us, let us be reminded of what a magnificent Creator we serve. It is my prayer that God would richly bless you and your family this holiday season and throughout the New Year.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions concerning your tribal government.

Roll # 0912

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.

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

Casino News



by Danny Bass

Thanks to the popularity and loyalty of the Lucky Turtle Casino's customers, the casino had another great summer! The warmth, friendliness, and quaintness of our little casino are what keep customers coming back.

The casino has been newly expanded with popular new VGT slot machines that the customers are really enjoying. The casino has also been brightened up with new sharp looking uniforms for our employees. The Lucky Turtle continues to amaze their customers with their little casino that always has big character!

by Trudie Pendergraft

On September 6th, 7th, & 8th we had our Annual Pow-Wow at the new Pow-Wow grounds. It was a special Pow-Wow celebrating "Chief's 25th year" and honoring the Veteran's Detail Honor Guard. Doesn't it send a chill through you when they do the Grand Entry?

The Lucky Turtle's promotion for September 10th was Gems and Jewels for \$6500.00, which was won by several winners.

October is a busy month with Health Fair, Food Shows, picking our spot for Park of Lights and on October 15th we gave a 50" TV away to Mr. Art Marker, our lucky winner.

We look forward every year to the Health Fair to make it a special day for the little ones with the help from Eastern Shawnee Tribe. We had lots of pumpkins for the pumpkin patch. Each child that goes on the hay ride gets to pick a pumpkin to take home and a bag of candy from that old scare crow.

The next event was a fun experience working on the display for the Flavor of the Four States. The Twin Bridges Restaurant took 1st Place on Display and Lucky was a big hit and he got his picture in the Joplin Globe. Thomas

Gerey, the Food and Beverage Director, and Mike and Adam, the chefs, did a fantastic job on the Shrimp in the Nest and the Blackened Catfish over Dirty Rice. They had it looking so good you hated to mess it up. The food they prepared went along with this year's theme "Mardi Gras".

We went to Twin Bridges State Park on October 20th to pick our spot for "The Park of Lights" display. So come and support your team, drive through and vote. The display will be set up and ready to open Thanksgiving night 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Come and get in the holiday spirit. The next Food Show is October 28th. "Taste of Ottawa County, at the Miami Civic Center from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. It's \$6.00 to taste all the food. Come and support the Twin Bridges Restaurant taste, enjoy and vote, vote.

November is a time to give thanks and a time for giving. Remember to share your blessings with others. November 12th is Lucky Turtle's drawing for a Turkey Fryer, Turkey Smoker and (3) \$100.00 Hot Seat Drawings.

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Christmas is coming December 10th. VGT is giving away \$8,500.00 so come in a play any VGT machine to earn entry tickets for the drawing. Tickets will be starting October 29th to December 10th.

Come in and enjoy food, fun and "Money" at the Lucky Turtle and start your New Year with the Lucky Turtle Casino Family.



by Danny Bass

At Wyandotte Nation Casino, fall is in full swing with the popular \$1,000,000 Pro

Football Challenge. The expectations have been surpassed by the popularity of this promotion!

Wyandotte Nation Casino has plans for a newly redesigned high denomination area that will be coming soon. This area is going to exceed the expectations of

our valued, high denomination customer. With the popularity of video poker, Wyandotte Nation Casino is proud to announce that we are installing a new area dedicated to video poker. Wyandotte Nation Casino has been listening to the needs of our gaming customers and we are dedicated to keeping up with the change required to accommodate those needs. Wyandotte Nation Casino is looking forward to a great fall!



by Danny Bass

Voted the #1 Flavor of the Four States

in 2007, Twin Bridges is gearing up for another win in 2008. People are always impressed with the quality and consistency of the food that Twin Bridges has to offer. The popular all you can eat Ribs on Tuesdays, delicious Frog Legs on Wednesday, and their Prime Rib Fridays are some of the great food that Twin Bridges serves up weekly. Twin Bridges was also featured on the 'Cooking with Carol Show' on KSN; which was a great success. Carol was greatly impressed by the professional presentation on the show. She even shared with her viewers that she frequents Twin Bridges Restaurants and her favorite dishes and off camera she shared that it is her favorite restaurant by far compared to other local casinos!



PLEASE SEND YOUR MEMBER NEWS TO:
TURTLE TALK
64700 E HWY 80
WYANDOTTE, OK 74370
OR FAX TO
(918) 678-2944

Member News

In Memory of Alan Garrison



Alan Ray Garrison was born April 6th, 1974 in Tulsa, Oklahoma and went home to be with Jesus November 16th, 2007.

It has been a year since the terrible loss of our precious son, Alan Garrison. Alan was the son of Tony and Pat Garrison (Burnside/Long), the grandson of Margurite Burnside Long and Great Grandson of Grover Long.

Alan grew up in Tulsa and Bixby where he excelled in bowling and Soccer through grade school and high school.

Alan was a very bright entergetic and active person and with a very loving, kind and tender heart. He was always

there when someone needed his help or support. He loved the outdoors, fishing, target shooting and motorcycle riding were his favorite hobbies. Alan was a member of B.A.S.S. and Catch and Release and could always catch fish, but they always went back into the water because he didn't want to hurt anything. The same about shooting, Alan loved to target shoot, but wouldn't hunt because he didn't want to kill anything. Alan always had several pets that he loved dearly; dogs, cats, fish, and even a duck and a turtle.

Because Alan loved to fish so much, the family vacations often were to favorite fishing spots, such as Roaring River, Bennet Springs, White River and several trips to the ocean for deep sea fishing.

Alan participated in the re-burial ceremonies at Ossossane burial grounds in Canada in 1999. Alan was honored by being assigned as "Keeper of the Fire" and for his dedicated effort, Chief Michel Groc-Louis awarded him with the burial pot of those being used in the ceremonies to re-bury the remains of

over 500 Wyandottes that had been kept in a museum in Canada. During the same trip, Alan was adopted into the BigTurtle Clan of the Wyandot tribe of Canada by Chief Clan Mother Eleanore Sioui of Wendake, Quebec.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven; A time to be born and a time to die; A time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; A time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn and a time to dance.

Our beloved son, with all the love a heart and soul can give; comfort comes from knowing we will be with you again for eternity in heaven.

Alan was a wonderful person to be around and will be terribly missed especially by his mother and father and all those who knew him. For a glimpse into Alan's life, log on to "bixbyfuneralservice.com" under Ultimate Tributes.

Pow-Wow News

By Sherri Clemons

The 2008 Pow-Wow started with sunny skies on Friday evening then the black rain clouds moved over our new grounds. However, it passed for the evening. Everything went on as scheduled for the evening, with contest and dancing. Saturday morning came with more showers, not to dampen anything but the ground! We ended up with 7" of rain over Pow-Wow weekend, but had a wonderful pow-wow. We had a total of 125 contest dancers this is not counting Gourd dancers and friends who just like to dance, 20 vendors, 4 drums and lots of fun. We all learned

what to work on for the coming years as to drainage, parking and many things the nation would like to see done.

With all the land, it will be the best Pow-Wow in the state someday. We also hope to host more dances and other cultural events on the grounds.

We have the best leaders who get in and work with the committee, showing support and sharing ideas, which are appreciated.

They have vowed to support us and we vow to work on a Pow-Wow the Wyandotte Nation can be proud of.

The Pow-Wow Committee would like to thank everyone who attended and waded in the mud with us.

Harris Reunion

Well, another year is about over. We had a successful Pow-Wow at our new grounds. Also many of the Harris family attended the Harris Reunion at Twin Bridges Park. It's always so nice to visit with those we only see once a year. Matter of fact, I think most of our family in attendance were from out of town. We do have a very good group. For those of you that didn't come, please attend next year. It's a great time to catch up on what's going on in the family.

See ya!

Ramona Reid

Tillie's Granddaughter

RRYNDOTOK@TDS.NET



Tribal Member, Gabriel Shelton, Attends Leadership Conference



This fall more than 250 middle school students from across the United States met in Washington, D.C. to take part in a leadership conference.

“Themed Voices of Leadership: Reflecting on the Past to Create the Future”, the Junior National Young Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) introduced young people to the rich tradition of leadership throughout American History, while helping them develop their own leadership skills.

“The aim of the Junior National Young Leaders Conference is to inspire students to recognize their own leadership skills, measure their skills against those of current and former leaders and return home with new found confidence in their ability to exercise positive influence within their communities.” said Marguerite Regan, Dean of Academic Affairs for the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the organization that sponsors JrNYLC. “Young people are not only welcome in

Washington, D.C.; they actually keep this city and our country running.”

Gabriel Shelton, son of Jason and Kimi Shelton of Commerce, attended the conference on September 20-25, 2008.

Gabriel attends Commerce Middle School and was nominated by his English Teacher, James Pickens, for the conference. He is in the National Honor Society, in the Gifted and Talented Program and is on the honor roll at Commerce Middle School.

He is the grandson of Gary and Monte Shelton of Miami, OK and William and Rhonda (Hildebrand) Klindworth of Wyandotte, OK.

Gabriel is a Wyandotte Tribal Member and is grateful for assistance with the tuition for the conference.

During the six-day program, Gabriel attended educational activities and presentations, as well as, met elected officials and congressional staff members on Capitol Hill. He visited relevant sites, such as Harper’s Ferry, W.V., and Washington D.C. monuments and memorials. He studied the impact of leadership throughout critical periods of American history including the Civil War and Reconstruction, World War II, the Great Depression and the Civil Rights Movement, while also examining notable U.S. leaders and historic figures.

Participants of the JrNYLC gained a greater sense of understanding of

the role of individuals in American democracy, as well as the responsibilities of being a leader.

NCYLC is a nonpartisan education organization. Since 1985, the council has inspired more than 200,000 young people to achieve their full leadership potential. Members of Congress serve on the NCYLC Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors. In addition, more than 40 embassies participate in the Council’s Honorary Board of Embassies.

Five Generations



By Dave Keffer

Pauline Hildebrand-Keffer recently celebrated the summer gathering that included most of her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and Anastasia, her first great great grandchild. The Wyandotte heritage passed on by Pauline’s mother, the late Alice Harris-Hildebrand, is proudly carried by all of Pauline’s descendants. Now 80 years old, Pauline is very active in her community of Central Point, Oregon. She volunteers much of her time to the local 4-H programs and the Central Point Senior Center.



Attention Tribal Vendors

The Wyandotte Nation is developing a list of Tribal Member owned businesses.
Send information to Julie West at 64700 E Hwy 60,
Wyandotte, Oklahoma. Or jwest@wyandotte-nation.org

Name _____

Roll Number _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Mobile Phone _____

Fax _____

Type of Business _____

Certifications, Business Licenses _____

Insurance _____

Liability _____

Work Comp _____

Tribal Department Reports

Environmental Department July thru September 2008

Environmental Director- Christen Lee
ext. 241

Environmental Assistant- Kathleen
Welch ext. 235

Environmental Technician- Janice
Wilson ext.245

Water & Education Technician- Earl
Salisbury ext. 252

Thank you to all Tribal Members that participated in the testing of their private wells. Your cooperation for our department is greatly appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will be having a booth at the Bearskin Wellness Center Health Day on October 11th.

Our department will also be conducting a Chronic Wasting Disease survey and tests at various Hunting Check Stations through out the Deer Season. For more information contact Janice Wilson or Earl Salisbury.

Christen will be attending the Oklahoma Tribal Water Meeting in Shawnee, OK on October 15th.

Janice and Earl will be assisting in the Phase 11 Grand Lake Sampling Program during the week of Oct. 20 – 23.

Christen and Kathleen will be gone to the OU5 Spring River Meeting at Kansas City the week of Oct. 28 – 30th.

If you have any questions or environmental needs please feel free to contact our office at anytime, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 – 4:30.

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

The Housing Department has at this time, a total of three (3) programs. One is the Housing Improvement Program (HIP) offered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The second is the water and septic/sewer program offered by Indian

Health Service (IHS-121). The third being the major program of the Housing Department. It is the NAHASDA Program offered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This is the primary program used by the Housing Department; however, each program is different and very necessary to fulfill the needs of all our Tribal Members.

The HIP Program, offered by the Bureau, is for the renovation of very; very low income families to repair sub-standard homes.

The IHS-121 Program is for the purpose of drilling wells, hooking to rural water districts, hooking to sewer lines or installing a septic/drain field system where sewers are not available. This is a program which has no income guidelines; again, however the rules state that this program must be used within the area boundaries used by the Claremore Indian Health Service to service the Wyandotte Nation.

The NAHASDA program, as stated, is our primary program. It is used to provide rentals, homeownership, and renovate substandard homes.

We also have a service providing rental assistance to qualifying college students living away from home in the four state area. Students must meet all the guidelines of low-income, receive the Wyandotte Nation Education Scholarship, and live within the four-state area.

All programs must meet federally mandated guidelines. We are always glad to furnish you with an application and explain our programs to you. If you would like more information, or would like to receive an application for any of the above programs, PLEASE do not hesitate to call our toll free number (1-800-256-2539 - either extension 236 or 239) and ask either Kathy or myself for an explanation of any of the programs. We are always more than happy to hear from you and do our very best to service you.

Reba Guilford, Housing Director
Wyandotte Nation

Planning/Development

We have been working with the National Park Service to allow the Tribe to assume activities currently provided by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, or SHPO. To accomplish this, we have had to prove the Tribe has the capability and capacity to assume these functions on Wyandotte Tribal Trust Lands. This process involves a complex plan that delineates the Tribe's activities and works with the National Park Service in the area of Historic Preservation. The Tribe has named Sherri Clemons as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or THPO.

We are hoping to have a complete program implemented by the end of October.

The infrastructure for the housing project is finally nearing completion. We have included pictures of the paved roadways, and the parking lots. The internal water and sewer connections are almost complete.



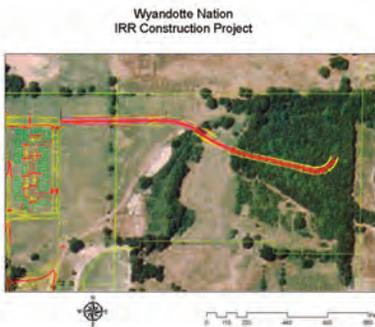
Our Water System Improvement Project involving deep well, water tower, linkage with existing system is still under review with the Oklahoma Water Resource Board. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is reviewing the final environmental documentation involving the roadway. Once these activities are complete, the Tribe will initiate the bid process, soliciting (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)
 contractors to drill the well and build the roadway to the water tower. An aerial photo displaying the roadway to the tower is included in this article.



Our maintenance department deserves a tremendous thank you for all the efforts undertaken in keeping the water and sewer system in shape and beautifying the Tribal grounds. The Tribal Pow-Wow grounds were developed, and a tremendous effort was put forth to meet all the deadlines, as well as facing seven inches of rainfall the day before the Pow-Wow. Thank you Ted Nesvold for constructing new bleachers. Welcome aboard Roger Hamilton, new member of our Maintenance Department.



This month we are developing our plans for construction of an emergency generator system, necessary for water and sewer during periods of electrical outage. This will allow the Tribe to maintain business activity during hazardous conditions. Also being developed is the implementation of the Equipment Improvement Plan, which will allow maintenance to adequately care for Tribal lands.

The Tribe is now formalizing a new Procurement Policy. This policy will update our existing policy, and will require a much more detailed and formalized purchasing process. Julie and Erin of our staff diligently worked to develop procedures. 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. To accomplish this, we request information to be sent to Julie at jwest@wyandotte-nation.org. Regulations for procurement with federal funds require certain licenses and insurance, so please provide information via e-mail.

FAMILY SERVICES

Kate Randall, Director of Family Services, ext. 224
 Dana Butterfield, Family Services Assistant, ext. 219

Greetings from Indian Territory. It was wonderful to see our new and old friends alike at this year's Annual Meeting and the 19th Annual Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow. There was a great turnout for both events. I am sure you were also very excited to see the new Pow-Wow grounds in operation and every year it will get better and better. If you missed the Annual Meeting, here is an update of the Family Services New and Existing Programs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call on Dana or Kate for clarification. In the interim, have a wonderful Indian summer and an outstanding Holiday Season with Family, Friends, and Loved ones. As Indian People, we share what we have because of who we are. Open your hearts and homes.

New Program: Effective March 4, 2008 Burial Assistance: \$500.00 Requirements: A completed Burial Assistance Application within 60 days after date of death; a copy of the death

certificate; itemized funeral bill. Payment will be made directly to the funeral home. Applications may be requested from this office or downloaded at the Nation's website under the Member's Section.

New Program: Effective March 4, 2008 New Infant Enrollees: The Enrollment Department will require a Membership Application and an Original State Certified Birth Certificate be completed prior to a child's first birthday in order to receive a \$50.00 gift card and a keepsake baby blanket with the Nation's tribal logo: Applications may be requested from this office or downloaded at the Nation's website.

New Program: Effective October 1, 2008-March 1, 2009: Announcement of Tribal Energy Assistance Program for Senior Citizens: Effective October 1, 2008 tribal members 62 years of age or older are eligible to apply for energy assistance in the amount of \$100.00 from October 1, 2008 through March 1, 2009. This program is one time per year, per household. Payment will be made directly to the service provider. You must reside within 100 miles of tribal headquarters in order to be eligible. No income guidelines apply. Applications will available at the tribal headquarters or may be requested by mail.

LIHEAP: Notices will be sent to Oklahoma Residents in December. The Wyandotte Nation has applied for the Tribal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and all Oklahoma residents will be notified by postcard during the month of December if the program was funded through the Federal Government. Income guidelines do apply. Applicants will be served on a first come, first serve basis. Applications will be available by mail only.

Social Service Programs:

Promoting Safe and Stable Families: The Wyandotte Nation continues to provide services to at risk families (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page) through the PSSF program and tribal social services programs for members in our service area. Services included, but not limited to are, Indian Child Welfare, Emergency crisis assistance, utility assistance, vehicle repairs, school supply vouchers, rental assistance, winter school clothing (income guidelines apply), crisis intervention and/or other identifiable services on a case by case basis. In all Indian Child Welfare cases, the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act mandates the Wyandotte Nation be notified if an eligible Wyandotte child is involved in an involuntary State court proceeding. If you have a family member who is located outside the service area that has questions pertaining to Indian Child Welfare matters, please contact this department.

Tribal Services: Tribal License Plates: Since August of 1999 there have been over 1,500 tribal plates issued for private passenger, recreation vehicles and motorcycles. This program has enabled family services to fund our infant car seat program, school supply vouchers as well as gasoline vouchers for the Annual Meeting. Proceeds from this program has also funded our two new programs, burial assistance, new enrollee initiative, as well as, the newly announced tribal energy assistance program for senior citizens.

Tribal Operations: The Enrollment Department received 105 membership applications that were reviewed on August 19th, 2008 by Wyandotte Nation Enrollment Committee representatives, Catherine Hitchcock, Janet Walker, and Leesa Hibbard. (New members list is this edition of the Turtle Speaks). Replacement membership cards and Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood cards may be obtained upon written or verbal request. The current enrollment of the Wyandotte Nation is 4,640 members nationwide.

Announcements: 2008 Children's Christmas Party: The 2008 Children's

Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2008 from 10:00 A.M. through 12:00 Noon. In addition to our annual toy and cookie party each head of household (parents or guardians only) will receive a \$25.00 Wal-Mart Gift card to apply toward food purchases for their Family Holiday Dinner.

May the Spirit of the Coming Seasons be with you and yours.

New Membership:

Taylor Jane Austin
 Ryhan Madison Bagnell
 Bryce David Barnes
 Apollo James Bettes
 Cameron Leone Bond
 Misty Lynn Brewer
 Paxton Cade Samuel Bruegel
 Chloe Adeline Buzzard
 Jealousy Marie Campbell
 Shane Clayton Campbell
 Destiny Janey Carpenter
 Sammy Dwayne Carpenter, Jr.
 Madison Nicole Coffey
 Haidyn Elizabeth-Grace Conness
 Cameron Brody Cummings
 Sylis Cappriani D' Alexander
 Jacoby Ashton Dalvine
 Logan Bradley Daniel
 Jerry George De Armond
 Jean-Philippe Luc De Greef
 Brayden Thomas Delany
 Alishia Renea Drake
 Gabrielle Paige Durham
 Chandley Suzanne Easley
 Emma Florence Easley
 Jennifer Lynn Evans
 Capriel Renee Fazzini
 Connor Allen Fazzini
 Eva Marie Fazzini
 Bruce Lee Goodrich
 Emma Rose Graham
 Francesco Drew Guerro
 Sophie Elizabeth Guerro
 Kaleena Irene Harper
 Jacob Ethan Hawkins
 Neleh Kathryn Hawkins
 Marisa Ann Heaton
 Elizabeth Grace Hennessy
 Liam Michael Hennessy

Mateen Alexander Hessami
 Natasha Pearl Hessami
 Sophia Maryam Hessami
 Brooke Alexis Holland
 Kaden Tyger Holland
 Adam Edward Homer
 Melissa May Homer
 Ashley Jeane Howard
 Alex Mickeal James
 Kanisha Nicole James
 Karissa Brianna James
 Abbey Lianne Johnson
 Ethan Alexander Johnson
 Josie David Johnson
 Diana Loie Karr
 Brent Malik Keefer
 Jeremiah Alan Kurth
 Jordan Paul Kurth
 Jacob Michael Lewis
 Avery Scott Lofland
 Jayla Raine Macias
 Caden Grant Mathis
 Audrey Elizabeth Melhorn
 Jordan Nicole Mitchell
 Kadance Suzanne Morris
 William Kane Morris
 Chastin Sean Murry
 Leah Siazon North
 Katie Darbi Outhier
 Violet Rachele Palomeque
 Dawson James Phelps
 Gabrielle Bonnie Phelps
 Reagann Irene Phelps
 Audrey Elise Rabe
 Michaela Nicole Rice
 Allison Nicole Robertson
 Kallie Mae Robitaille
 Karsee Lynn Robitaille
 Grayson Michael Sexton
 Kennedy Grace Sexton
 Cailyn Marie Smith
 Aidan Eli Stone
 Jillian Rose Swanger
 Frederick Jaxzyn Taylor
 Joseph Gabriel Thurman
 Ryan Gene Todd
 Hamiton Garrett Trimble
 Harrison Reid Trimble
 Jacob Christopher Turley
 Ian Kyle Watts
 Lydia Amin Watts
 (continued on next page)

Department Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

Alexis Morgan Webb
Camryn Grace Welborn
Madelyn Rose Whitney
John Tracy Wright, II
Richard Zane Yocum
Kendall Alyse Young
Adelynn Rose Zane
John Lee Karr
James Arthur Karr
Troy Robert Karr
Alize' Lynn Trejo
Julia Loren Karr
Kaitlyn Danielle Karr
Tanner Bell Karr
Tessa Ann Karr

ELDER SERVICES

It was great to see everyone once again at the Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow. We are all trying to get ready for the holidays. We will have our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner Thursday, November 20, and our Christmas Dinner will be Thursday, December 18. Both will be sit down dinners with staff from other departments assisting with serving the elders at their tables. We will have goody-bags for everyone at the Christmas Dinner. Please come and share the blessings with us!

In celebration of Chief Bearskin's twenty five years of service here at the Wyandotte Nation, we have new commemorative t-shirts available in our gift shop. Prices are 14.00 for youth and x-small through adult large and \$16.00 for x-large adult through 3x adult.



CAREGIVER

October was a very busy month for the Caregiver Program participating in the Fall Festivals in the Ottawa and Delaware Counties. October 7, 2008, Dari and two members from the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group in Grove set up a booth at the Delaware County Senior Citizen Fair. October 11, 2008 Dari had a booth at the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Health Fest. October 20, 2008. Dari and Brenda helped with the Quapaw Tribe's Sr. Olympics.

We wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season.

Brenda House, Director, Elder Services ext. 227

Dari Ann Hunnicutt, Caregiver Specialist ext. 253

Kandi Smith, Food Service Team Supervisor ext. 228

Lynda Wilson, Food Service Team ext. 228

Leesa Hibbard Food Service Team ext. 228

Menu ext. 226

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center

by Kelly Walker

Free preventive health screenings were the major attraction at the 7th Annual Fall Health Fest sponsored by Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center. The Health Fest was Saturday, October 11 from 8:00 am to noon.

In conjunction, the Oklahoma Blood Institute held a blood drive with a goal of 17 participating individuals. With the help of the community, this goal was surpassed as 25 donated.

Among the health screenings that were offered at the event were cholesterol screenings, blood glucose checks, blood pressure readings, body fat analysis, as well as, free flu shots to the first 100 participants.

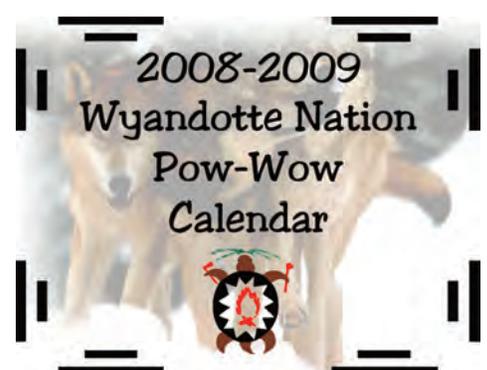
In addition to screenings, the event featured more than 20 informational booths, which provided the community an opportunity to learn of valuable resources within the area. Vendors participating in the event included: Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa County, INTEGRIS Baptist Regional Health Center, INTEGRIS Generations, INTEGRIS Regency Home Care, Eastern Shawnee Police Department, Eastern Shawnee Environmental, Osborne Care & Rehab, Ottawa County Health Department, Miami Rotary Club, Wyandotte Nation Environmental, Wyandotte Nation Caregiver Program, Alzheimer's Association, Heaven and Earth Hospice and INTEGRIS Health Diabetes Center.

The event was for the entire family. Several activities were held for children attending the event as well including pumpkin painting, hayrides, face painting, crafts, basketball, slides, moonwalk and an obstacle course.



Pow-Wow Calendar

The 2009 Pow-Wow Calendars will be available for purchase in November. If you would like to buy one, they are \$10.00 each. For more information contact Sherri Clemons at 918-678-2297 ext. 244.



Education Department

Preschool:

The Wyandotte Nation Pre-school began the year with a record enrollment of fifty-two children in three classes on August 14, 2008. The increased enrollment has been made possible by the addition of the new building. The students are enjoying physical education classes that are facilitated by the staff of the Bearskin Fitness Center. A new learning opportunity for our Pre-school students is the Wyandotte Language Class being instructed by Richard Zane Smith. He utilizes his water drum and brand new board books with the animal names in Wyandotte that were designed by Mr. Smith. The first field trip of the year was to a fire safety program in Miami. The children are happy to demonstrate their "Stop, Drop, and Roll" maneuver. We visited the Pumpkin Patch at Fredrickson Farms in Carl Junction, Missouri. All staff, students and parents enjoyed the hay ride and each one picked an ornamental pumpkin to take home. The day was concluded by lunch at CiCi's Pizza in Joplin. We will have several more trips during the year as we attend plays at Crowder College and Missouri Southern State University. Soon we will visit all the tribal entities on our annual trick-or-treat parade. The Pre-school Thanksgiving Dinner and Program will be held in November. This is a great event that includes the pre-school students and family members, Wyandotte Nation staff, invited dignitaries and food. We will have a few short breaks in the school schedule as the holidays approach and the students are working diligently in Kumon Math trying to make the honor roll.



Gabriel Garcia at the Pumpkin Patch.



Group of students, friends & family as they take off on the hayride.



Raven Smith at Fredrickson Farms Pumpkin Patch

Before and After School Program:

The before and after school programs are busy on a daily basis as we transport around eight children to school each morning and we have approximately thirty in the afternoon. The teachers and assistants help the children with homework as well as projects and games from 3:45pm to 5:30pm each day.



New materials in library with Jessie Winscott & Karen McNelis.

Library:

A multitude of new materials are available in the library. Several new titles that have been added lately are: Firefly Lane, Laughter of Dead Kings, High Lonesome, Road from Coorain, Living by Fiction and many more. A regular patron was very complimentary of the customer service exhibited by the staff after requesting specific materials and the staff was able to locate and add to the library. Library Clerk, Karen McNelis recommends Unfinished Life by Mark Spragg. "It is an honest, deeply satisfying novel set in Wyoming and you will enjoy it start to finish." Jessie Winscott, Assistant Library Clerk, wanted to let patrons know that there are several new Louis L'Amour books and several new dvd's for the entire family. If you haven't visited the Wyandotte Tribal Library you are missing out on a local treasure. All of this is offered by the Wyandotte Nation at no cost to you. Just complete an application and you will be ready to utilize our facility.

Child Care & Development Fund Program:

Plans are in progress for the annual Child Care Provider Mini-Conference that is hosted each fall. This meeting gives our licensed child care providers an opportunity to gain new ideas and receive required training to keep current with state mandates. Staff of the Wyandotte Nation Pre-school that are planning to attend are Sharon Bartley, Cheryl Burleson, Debbie Scribner and Amanda Paxson.

The Child Care program serviced two hundred ninety eight children in the month of August. We utilize licensed child care home (continued on next page)

Education Department (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

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.

Tribal Scholarships:

Several new tribal members are currently receiving their first semester of tribal funding. New recipients are: Ethan Goins, Oklahoma University; Tosha Keefer, Shasta College; Michael Hart, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College; Audrey Stone, University of Arkansas; Corey Baker, New Mexico State University; Iona Long, University of California Irvine; Taylor Coye, University of Tulsa; Helena Mills, University of Nevada/Las Vegas; Kenneth Glass, Bacone College; Ryan Kraft, Eastern Washington University; Steven Anderson, Blue Grass Community and Technical College; Amanda Friberg, Chandler-Gilbert Community College; Kayla Collins, Crowder College; Robert DeMarsh, Air Force Academy; David Guilford, Rogers State University; Darcy Allred, Drury University; Chad Clark, University of New Mexico; Cynthia Betts, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College; Alexander Barclay, Perry Technical College; Kierstin Houk, Pittsburg State University; Whitley Douthit, University of Kansas; Johnny Butler, Orange Coast College; Gregory Scott Langston, Northeastern State University; Daniel Rasor, Northeastern State University; Heather Lovelace, Rogers State University; Kayla White, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College.

The addition of master's degree scholarships is a wonderful step for the Education Department of the Wyandotte Nation. Current enrollees are Jason Cole at Emporia State University and Jennifer Sexton at Cameron University.

Additional funds that were made available are funding several students in the Vocational fields. New students on this program are: Lynette Oakley, Nursing at Afton Vo-Tech; DiAnna Moore, Nursing at WINGS Healthcare Training in Broken Arrow; and Lacy Rivas, Nursing at Kansas Vo-Tech.

Housing application 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 has added several new clients as a result of our partnering with businesses to provide employment retention incentives. It can also be utilized for funding educational training at either technical schools or colleges. Clients 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

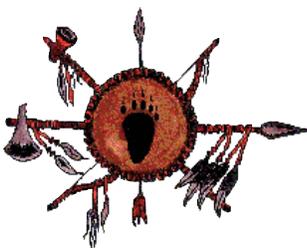
Wyandotte Nation Tag Office

Please call Dana or Kate

at (800) 256-2539

ext. 219 and ext. 224

respectively for
appointments.



2008 Pow-Wow





The children's Christmas Party will be held in the Artie Nesvold Community Center, Saturday, December 13th from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Come see Santa and enjoy the morning. Gifts and refreshments for all kids 12 and under.

Holiday Schedule

November 11

Veterans' Day - Offices Closed

November 14

Pre-School Thanksgiving Dinner

November 20

Title VI Thanksgiving Dinner

November 27-28

Offices Closed for Thanksgiving

December 13

Tribal Children's Christmas Party

December 18

Title VI Christmas Dinner

December 19

Staff Gift Exchange - Close at

11:00 a.m.

December 24-25

Offices Closed for Christmas

December 31 -

Offices Closed for New Year's Day

January 1, 2009

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

