

GYAH'-WISH ATAK-IA

THE TURTLE SPEAKS



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website: www.wyandotte-nation.org

AUGUST 2012

Barbeau Exhibit



THE GATHERING OF TRADITIONS
 A Centennial Celebration of Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau in Oklahoma
 Sam Noble Museum - University of Oklahoma

The exhibit, a partnership with the Wyandotte Nation, Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, Sam Noble Museum and the Canadian Museum of Civilization will open at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at The University of Oklahoma at 1 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2012. More information is on page 14 and 15.

Save the Date
Cultural Days September 4-7, 2012
Pow-Wow September 7-9, 2012

Public Notice

Notice of Annual Meeting

On September 8, 2011 the Wyandotte Nation shall hold their Annual Meeting in the new gymnasium at the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center near Wyandotte, Oklahoma. The Annual Meeting will start at 10:00 a.m.

The Election Committee of the Wyandotte Nation has determined that there are no contested posts for elective office within the government of the Wyandotte Nation for 2012. Therefore, it is not necessary to hold an election at the Tribe's Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 8, 2012. Regular elective posts will be available September 2013.

Donna Mercer, Chairperson
 Wyandotte Nation Election Committee

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia

Wyandotte Nation
Board of Directors
Billy Friend
 Chief

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.
 Second Chief
Ramona Reid
 Councilperson
Vivian Fink
 Councilperson

Juanita McQuiston
 Councilperson
Eric Lofland
 Councilperson

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

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The Chief Says.....



Kweh,
I hope this quarter's Turtle Talk finds all doing well and enjoying their summer. Once again it is time to begin looking forward to our Annual Meeting, Pow-Wow and Cultural Week. Each of these events has continued to grow both in attendance and improvement each year.

This year Culture Day's will be highlighted by a trip to the Sam Noble Museum in Norman, OK to view the Barbeau Exhibit which you will find more information about in this newsletter.

Our summer intern program is also in full swing with 23 of our Wyandotte Youth working in various departments throughout the Tribal Headquarters. This year we will be taking them to Upper Sandusky, Ohio to visit our former

Tribal homelands and see the different places of importance in our Tribal history. These youth have done an outstanding job for us this summer and hopefully it will be an enriching experience in their lives.

Things are really growing; it is an exciting time for the Wyandotte Nation both culturally and economically. I am very proud of our Tribal employees and Tribal citizens who work together to help further the mission of the Tribe. All of our programs, businesses, and committees work hard to serve the needs of our Tribal citizens with pride and respect. It is very gratifying to work for you and to see the progress and fruits of our labors. One of those fruits that we hope to announce at this year's Annual Meeting is a Nationwide Health Benefit for all of our Tribal citizens regardless of where you may reside. We are currently working very hard to make this a reality beginning in January of next year and will hopefully have more information to announce at Annual Meeting.

There are many other projects that we have begun in the last several months of which I will wait and share the details with you at the Annual Meeting. Our mission remains (continued on next page)

From Norman Hildebrand, Jr. -Second Chief



Kweh
I hope everyone is well and enjoying the great weather we have been blessed with this year. It has been a good year for gardens and I have seen a lot of fresh vegetables.

I have had a few tribal members question whether or not we need a tribal court system. My response to them, yes we do to better protect the Wyandotte Nation and its citizens. The authority and jurisdiction of not only the Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police but other tribal police departments have been questioned. An Associate District Judge in Ottawa County ruled that tribal police officers are not peace officers and they only have jurisdiction on trust land. This not only limits police patrols but leaves the Town of Wyandotte without police protection, except for the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department and they are under staffed to the point that the county does not have adequate protection

without the assistance of tribal police departments.

The Associate District Judge used the Federal definition of Indian lands which is trust land only. Several years ago the State of Oklahoma declared all of Oklahoma as Indian Country, so which one has precedence. There was a House Bill in the Oklahoma Legislature that would have defined the authority and jurisdiction of tribal police across the state, but due to a water rights law suit against the State of Oklahoma every Bill that had the word tribal in it was pulled out of committees.

Back to the courts question, whenever our police officers issued a citation in the Town of Wyandotte of course the fine and court costs went to the town. A citation issued out of the city limits and within "our jurisdiction" the fine and court costs would go to Ottawa County. When we implement our Tribal Court System fines and court costs will be paid to our court system. Presently we use C.F.R. court, we have had cases in C.F.R. court for about two years with no resolution. The C.F.R. court travels all over the state hearing cases so (continued on next page)

2nd Chief cont.

(continued from previous page)

this is not a speedy solution, the U.S. Attorney's office tells us they want cases to prosecute but it takes months just to get an arrest warrant from them.

Wyandotte Nation court system will be more expedient in all aspects of the judicial process. We will also have a community court that will offer alternative sentencing such as community service and rehabilitation. The codes and procedures have been approved by the Board of Directors and will be sent to the B.I.A. solicitor in Tulsa for review. Hopefully early next year we will have our court system implemented

The first week of May I traveled to Canada with our Honor Guard to visit our former homelands in the Georgian Bay area. At one of our stops we found a card with the Wendat, Wyandot, Wyandotte, Huron Pledge and I would like to share it with you.

"Maybe our Wendat blood is mixed, maybe we no longer speak our native language fluently. But we remain. We will remain as long as the rivers will flow, as long as the sun will shine and as long as the trees will grow. Beyond our color, we will stay Wendat by keeping our heritage alive.

I, Wendat, Wyandot, Wyandotte, Huron pledge to keep alive our heritage, to keep living the close relationship with nature and the Creator, the spiritual values, ceremonies, our language, music, songs, dances, clothes, our arts, ...and to share it. Because it was so beautiful, we want to carry it on, evolving.

I, Wendat, have just promised I will give life to our country's nation's customs.

We will give to each other. I will give life to it, the forests, he who is the Great Voice of our lives, our spiritual ceremonies, our words, voices.

We will do all of it, it is like how Wendat used to be, in our mind, thoughts. We will do it as it was beautiful."

Written by Chantal Gros- Louis, Huron Wendat

It is an honor to serve the Wyandotte Nation as 2nd Chief

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.
Second Chief

Law Enforcement Employee of the Year



OKC Assistant Federal Security Director – Law Enforcement, Dave Culver - 2012 Oklahoma Federal Executive Board - Law Enforcement Employee of the Year Award:

"Has distinguished himself, TSA, DHS and the US Federal Service by providing outstanding law enforcement support in the war against terrorism through his actions as an Assistant Federal Security Director for Law Enforcement for the State of Oklahoma. In

2011, he conducted 53 separate security investigations ranging from an unsupervised package arriving at Will Rogers World Airport belonging to a person on TSA's "watchlist" to a passenger who had hidden knives and axes in a soccer ball he was attempting to get through the checkpoint in the early morning hours. He is also actively involved in incident response and rail security planning activities. His knowledge, dedication, and professionalism have greatly enhanced the security posture of transportation venues across the State. Mr. Culver's unsurpassed ability to coalesce law enforcement professionals at all levels of government in planning, training, and responding to security incidents affecting local communities has contributed immeasurable to the transportation security of the citizens and guests of Oklahoma.

The Chief Says...

(continued from previous page)

the same that is to continue to "improve the quality of life for all our Tribal citizens." As always may God continue to watch over and protect you until we meet again. "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." Psalms 121:1-2.

Roll #2260

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.

Casino News



By: Trisha Burns

Lucky Turtle has been heating up with some fantastic events this summer! The Floatin' and Boatin' Giveaway and LTC Vacation Promotion were both great successes. The events truly packed the house, and guests loved them. Who doesn't get excited about a brand new Skorpion fishing boat or a paid vacation... There are several other exciting promotions in the works, plus the 2nd Annual Lucky Turtle TV Bonus is soon approaching.

This is an exciting time for Lucky Turtle Casino as several new projects are underway to revamp the classic casino. As always we can't say thank you enough to the crew at Lucky Turtle Casino and everyone else who has helped make the Lucky Turtle an iconic gaming destination. Stay tuned for an exciting rest of the summer and an unforgettable fall.



By Casey Ellett

Summer is here, and the party is at Wyandotte Nation Casino! At the moment, employees and guests are having a ball with the return of the 2010 hit "Jammin' July." A musically themed promotion that lets everyone join in the fun! Team members have been great sports dressing for each decade theme (50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s). I didn't even know some of

these outfits still existed!

We have several exciting promotions soon approaching for all you sports nuts! Whether your game is baseball or football we have something in store for you. In August, the Grand Slam Vacation Giveaway is sure to catch the attention of the area, and if that isn't enough, you can't miss the Ultimate Tailgate Ride Giveaway coming in September. One lucky player will be driving home in the perfect tailgating vehicle a 2012 Chevy Silverado! These enormous promotions combined with some updated daily promotions are sure to make for an exciting rest of the summer, and a fall that will be anything but expected. As always we continue our goal to better our casino for guests and employees alike; whether it is new promotions, new games, renovations, or customer service, it could not be done without the extreme dedication and hard work from the Wyandotte Nation Casino team. We press forward with the mission to make Wyandotte Nation Casino the premier gaming location in the four state area.



By: Wacy Humble

Twin Bridges Restaurant and Lounge is in full swing this summer!

Twin Bridges Restaurant has been serving up some of the best food in the area all summer long. Chef Bowen and his amazing staff continue to satisfy customers with delicious daily lunch and dinner specials! Be sure to keep an eye out for new menu items in the near future. Also, you cannot forget to come in

and try Chefs home-grown heirloom tomatoes, fresh out of the garden at Wyandotte Casino!

Twin Bridges Lounge has been taking advantage of the summer months by hosting Patio Parties every Friday night in June and July. Despite some warm weather, guests have still enjoyed coming out to the patio to partake in food and drink specials, great music, and drawings!

Twin Bridges Restaurant and Lounge continues to be one of the premier dining locations in the area; exceeding in excellent food and customer service.



By Casey Ellett

7th Street Casino is mixing things up with some hot new promotions! Currently, Jammin' July (7th Street style) is in full swing, and the event has been met with great excitement and praise. Starting in August, 7th Street Casino will be kicking off weekly Men's Night, Ladies' Night, and Happy Hour promotions, which are sure to add some excitement to long weekdays.

7th Street Casino is also in the process of updating a variety of its advertising pieces. From a new website, billboards, and television ads to direct mail, YouTube, and Facebook; 7th Street is changing it up, and excited about what the future holds.

Even as a new casino enters the market, 7th Street Casino has continued to show dominate growth in a market that is becoming very competitive. This growth can almost certainly be contributed to a 7th Street team that is second to none.

Wyandotte visit the Home Lands

by Sherri Clemons

April 2012, Chief Hildebrand, Doug Spangler, Government Affairs Director, Sherri Clemons, Tribal Heritage Director, and five members of the Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard made a trip to Ontario, Canada, on the shores of Georgian Bay once home to the Wyandotte.

They were met by Charles and Ella Garrard, friends of the tribe for many years.

Charles and Ella have been extreme advocates for the Wyandotte people in the home lands and work effortless in the protection of sites located all over Ontario.

The Members of the group were greeted by local Mayors from Blue Mountain Township and the city of Collingswood.

They visited museums in Craigeith, Simcoe County, Midland, which included, Huronia and Saint Marie among the Huron.

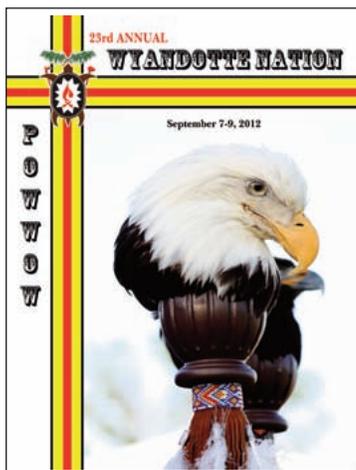
The group spent several hours at Ossossane, site of the reburial in 1999, paying great respect to the ancestors. This was a very moving experience for the members who had not attended the ceremonies.

The Wyandotte Nation would like to say "Thank you" to Charlie and Ella for the wonderful trip and all the time you both spent dragging us around.

Pow-Wow

Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow- September 7-9,2012

by Sherri Clemons



Hoping to see everyone at the Pow-Wow! Each year the Pow-Wow continues to grow and prosper in ways we never thought could happen. The Tribe has continued to plan new and better ways to make it people friendly, to be a place where families can come, visit with friends and family. A place to feel safe. We have a wonderful staff this year. All very well

known and respected in the Indian world.

So bring your chairs and all the family, and come enjoy the rich history of Native American Entertainment.

Wyandotte Nation Tag Office

Please call Dana or Tara
at (800) 256-2539
ext. 219 and ext. 255
respectively for appointments.
Handicapped Plates available

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

NOTICE:

There is a limited amount of funding available for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for summer or crisis utility assistance. In order to qualify you must be a resident of Oklahoma and meet the following income guidelines. Family of one: \$19,307.00: Family of two: \$25,247.00: Family of 3: \$31,188.00: Family of four: \$37,129.00: Family of five: \$43,069.00: Family of 6: \$49,010.00. Please contact Kate, Tara or Dana in the Family Services office. Deadline 9/30/2012

Member News

Gary Lawson Realtor



Hello, fellow Wyandotte Tribal members. My name is Gary Lawson and I am a licensed real estate agent with Pro 100 Realtors. I have lived in the Joplin and Seneca area my entire life. I graduated from Parkwood High School in 1972. I was in the construction field for over 35 years. I worked mostly as lead carpenter for RE Smith Construction and Branco Construction. Now I am ready to go to work for you. Whether you are in the market to buy or sell; I can help you with all your real estate needs. I believe very strongly in honesty. And treating everyone fairly, as I would want to be treated. Thanks for taking the time to learn a little about me. My contact information is below.

Gary Lawson
 Cell# 417-540-0309 call/text
 E-mail glawson@pro100.com

23rd Annual WYANDOTTE POW-WOW

September 7-9, 2012

Grand Entries

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.

11th Annual Veterans Honor Program

All Veterans Welcomed



HEAD STAFF

Head Singer	Damian Blackfox
Head Man Dancer	Justin Yearby
Head Lady Dancer	Peggy Kinder
Head Gourd Dancer	Judd Pearman
Honor Guard	Wyandotte Honor Guard
Arena Director	Dude Blalock
Head Judge	Jay Blalock
Master of Ceremonies	Steve Kinder
Wyandotte Nation	
Princess	Emilie Wills
Jr. Princess	Veronica Burnside
Northern Drum	Young Buffalos

Janet Walker Insurance



Greetings Tribal members. It is my joy to announce to you that my son, Aaron Walker, has recently joined with me in business at Farmers Insurance. I am so blessed to have all of my children and grandchildren living so close. Aaron and I will be serving to protect you and your assets from our new location at 1829 N. Main St. in Miami, OK. At our agency we take a consultative and educational approach with our clients so that there is no uncertainty of coverage and protection when disaster occurs. Call, come by, or email us for a friendly quote on your home, auto, life, business, motorcycle, boat, or other recreational vehicles. Because we are proud of our heritage, and love our Wyandotte family, tribal members will receive a free gift with any insurance quote.

God Bless,

Janet Walker
 918-542-3316
 jwalker10@farmersagent.com

Location: Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow Grounds
 5.2 miles East of Wyandotte, OK on Highway 60

The Power of Touch



Bringing Essential Care to Children in Need

Children in orphanages around the world may have food, clothing and shelter, but often they lack an essential ingredient for basic health and happiness—touch. Without it, children often feel discarded, forgotten and even untouchable, especially when their circumstances are complicated by being sick or having a disability.

Orphans have many physical needs, and because these needs are the most immediate, they are the most urgent. However, children have significant emotional needs as well. Experience has shown that orphanages find it a challenge to meet the emotional and developmental needs of children, including personalized care and attention.

Children who are resilient typically have a number of characteristics that make this possible. These characteristics include having a sense of purpose in life, confidence in one's ability to control any given situation, compassion for others, a belief in the fundamental goodness of people, and the energy and resourcefulness to make things happen.

The Liddle Kidz™ Foundation Global programs directly nurture two of these important characteristics; compassion for others and the belief in the fundamental goodness of people. Our programs support children and their caregivers, so that each child has the chance to reach their full potential.

Since 2005, Tina Allen, founder of the Liddle Kidz Foundation Global, has organized volunteer groups of healthcare professionals to give their time, care and compassion to the children of the world through hands-on global outreach programs.

Liddle Kidz Foundation Global (LKF Global) programs provide hands-on training, education and tools to healthcare workers, orphanage staff and caregivers in providing

nurturing touch and massage therapy to improve the early development of infants and children under their care.

Through LKF Global's support and training, caregivers improve

their ability to nurture a child's development in such key areas as language, social, cognitive and physical skills. Our programs also facilitate an enhancement in bonding of infants and children to caregivers, which establishes a strong foundation for their future.

LKF Global's materials and curriculum are designed to empower caregivers in simple methods

of directing a child's daily care to include developmentally appropriate tactile stimulation, nurturing touch and caring which can improve a child's critical development.

Education presented by LKF Global is done so in respect of all cultures and specifically adapted on a case-by-case basis, so all materials are culturally adaptable. LKF Global infuses storytelling, games, songs and developmental movement to adapt its curriculum to any culture. This empowers all caregivers to be able to provide sensory rich stimulation without the use of toys or costly equipment.



LKF Global education reaches not only developmental goals of healthy well children, but also addresses varying special healthcare needs. In this way, all children benefit from receiving nurturing and appropriate touch.



Tribal Department Reports

Family Services

School

ATTENTION ALL SCHOOL KIDS!!
FAMILY SERVICES: GETTING
READY FOR A NEW SCHOOL
YEAR!

Summer is winding down, and children are preparing to go back to school. The Family Services Department would like to remind everyone of the wonderful services provided by our Tribe for school age children! Expenses for our children are ever increasing as they grow and participate in more activities! These programs are available for students who are in Pre-school through the 12th grade. Students must be enrolled members of the Wyandotte Nation and live within a 200 mile radius of the Wyandotte Nation offices. Applications for these programs can be obtained in the Family Services Department. School Supply applications are also available on the Wyandotte Nation website.

School Supplies: Effective August 1st, Wal-Mart gift cards will be available to buy school supplies in the amount of \$100 for each student. Receipts for items purchased with these cards must be returned to Family Services in order to be eligible for this program in the future. You may also opt to not use a gift card, but to purchase the school related items yourself and submit receipts to the Tribe for reimbursement of up to \$100 per student. We will accept receipts dated July 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012. This allows you to shop at the store of your choice. Application is available on the website.

Extracurricular Activities/School Expense Assistance: This assistance of up to \$100 is available from October 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013. Students may be reimbursed for expenses related to school attendance and school participation such as: instruments, academic fees, sports activities, uniforms, school

lunches, class pictures, etc. If you have a question regarding allowable expenses, please call.

High School Junior/Senior Assistance: This program allows \$250 to students to help offset the added expenses of Jr./Sr. year, such as: yearbook, class pictures, cap and gown, announcements, letter jacket, class ring, instruments, school lunches, testing fees, college fees, sports activities or other related expenses. Payment can be made directly to the vendor, or reimbursed to you with proof of payment.

Winter Clothing Allowance: Effective December 1, 2012 through March 1, 2013, a \$100 clothing allowance is provided to tribal members in Pre-K through 12th grade. Families may obtain a Wal-Mart gift card for \$100 or present receipts to be reimbursed for an amount not to exceed \$100. Receipts for items purchased with the Wal-Mart cards must be returned in order to be eligible for this program in the future.

Other Family Services Programs:
Summer Senior Citizen Energy Assistance: Tribal members age 62 and older who live within a 200 mile radius of the Tribal offices are eligible to apply for \$200 of energy assistance. This program is available from July 1 to September 30. (Due to the excessive heat this summer, the benefit was increased from \$100.00 to \$200.00).

Elders Assistance: A \$250 per year Elders Assistance Program is provided to Tribal members age 62 and older to help enhance life quality. This program may be used for household expenses, repairs, rent or other personal needs. Payment can be made directly to the vendor or you may be reimbursed with receipts for purchases. The deadline for 2012 Elders Assistance is October 1, 2012. The new fiscal year for 2013 begins on October 1, 2012. This program also has a 200 mile residency requirement.

Child Passenger Safety Seats. The child passenger safety seats are available only at the Tribal headquarters.

Parent may receive three age appropriate safety seats as their child grows from newborn-booster.

Indian Child Welfare/Promoting Safe and Stable Families: If your family has been involved in a State Court Proceeding regarding the removal of your children, please contact the Wyandotte Nation. It is mandatory that States contact the Tribe if this occurs, due to the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act. If the family does not provide the State with proof of Indian status (membership card), often times the Tribe is unaware of the State Court involvement. Our goal is to help aid in the reunification of parents and children. Through the Promoting Safe and Stable Family Grant, the Tribe may be able to aid your family or other at risk families by providing court intervention and emergency services.

Tribal Tag Program: Tribal tags, including Handicap tags, are now available to all Oklahoma residents. If you have not registered a vehicle with the Wyandotte Nation and would like information of the process, please contact Dana Butterfield. New and renewal tags may be processed through the mail.

News From the Enrollment Department:

The deadline for Membership applications to be received in the Enrollment Office is August 15, 2012. An ORIGINAL state certified birth certificate must be included with each application and the application must be signed. If an application is received by a child's first birthday then they will receive a \$100.00 Walmart gift card and a blanket with the Tribal symbol. Please remember that the Wyandotte Nation Constitution does not allow for dual enrollment. If the applicant is enrolled with another federally recognized tribe then their application will be denied based on that status, unless the application is accompanied by relinquishment documentation from the other tribe.

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Tribal Department Reports

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The Enrollment staff is very excited to announce that soon we will have a new software program and will be able to issue Membership/Citizenship cards with a photo. These photo cards have been approved for use as identification for employment purposes by the Social Security Administration as well as other identification purposes. Once the new system is in place and running you will be able to request an application for a new Membership/Citizenship card from the Enrollment Office by mail or by coming into the office. If you need to request by mail you will be asked to obtain a "passport" photo from an entity in your local area and return the application along with the photo and your signature, which will then be scanned into the system. The system is anticipated to be ready by Cultural Days so many of you may be able to take advantage of this on site at that time if you are attending. Enrollment staff will plan to have an appointment schedule for members to sign up for this. One major difference you will find with this type of card is that ONLY the individual Tribal member/citizen will be able to make the request or the parent or legal guardian of minor children. Those who choose not to obtain the photo card will still be able to get the current style of card.

The new software will also allow for the Enrollment staff to store additional information such as e-mail addresses, alternate addresses (mailing/physical), phone numbers (home/cell), as well as, other vital household information that individuals are willing to share.

In closing, the Family Services Department hopes to see many of you at this year's Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow. Please stop by and meet our new Tribal social worker, Tara Gragg. As a Wyandotte Nation tribal member, Tara has quickly adapted to her new position while absorbing so much of her native heritage. Tara guided our summer youth cultural project which was the

creation of a "water drum" in addition to education surrounding the sacred sounds of the drum. The youth group spent many hours in June with the fitness center staff, environmental staff and family services staff. It is inspiring to witness the children absorb our teachings. In the Spirit of the Indian World, it was said our people had no systematic education of their children. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The primitive people were held to be divinely instituted, and those in connection with the training of children were very thorough in all teachings from one generation to another. As we held the "talking stick" and explained its purpose, the children were very respectful in their manners. Our parents are doing a wonderful job in their homes by passing that gift of respect. Until we meet again, have safe travel on your journeys.

Environmental Department

April, May and June are busy months for the Environmental Department. Along with our regular schedule of water sampling we attended several workshops/meetings. In April Christen attended the 319 NPS workshop in Catoosa. Janice and Jessica attended the Healthy Homes Indoor Air Quality training in Miami and Janice and Kathy attended the Grand Lake Watershed Conference at the Pensacola Dam Eco Center. In May Christen, Kathy and Janice attended the Trustee Councils of the Tri-States and the TCTC meetings at the Ottawa building. Janice, Kathy, and Jessica passed the online renewal course for their Class D Water/Wastewater certification. Kathy and Janice flew to Philadelphia for a week long Data Exchange Network conference. June found some of us joining the WN preschool at Bernice State Park and at the Springfield Zoo.

In April we celebrated Earth Day and Arbor Day consecutively. On April 27 we attended the Quapaw Elementary Earth Day celebration. We talked with

the kids about the importance of recycling & showed them items made from recycled products. We also handed out redbud trees for them to take home and plant. We discussed how trees clean the pollutants from the air. On April 30th we planted trees with the Wyandotte Nation preschool children and taught them about trees and how they clean the air.



On May 11th we joined other local Tribes at Jolly Mill Park near Granby, MO for a macro invertebrate sampling and identification demonstration hosted by the Eastern Shawnee Environmental Department. Since we have experience in this, we took our nets and id books and taught some of the other Tribes' newer employees how we sample and identify macros. It was a fun time for all. On May 25th our department took a "Bug Hike" with the younger children of the WN preschool. We also did a craft project with UV beads to show the kids how UV rays can affect things including our skin.

On June 8th we did a habitat craft project with the WN Preschool children. The children laced animals on a tree (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page) while we discussed different animals and where they live. On June 14th we did an animal craft project with the same group. The children colored and glued a turtle and bugs to green construction paper grass while we read books about animals to them. The afternoons of June 18th thru 21st found us hosting the WN Summer Youth program kids (age's 7-12 yr. olds) in a Macro Mania education project. The Summer Youth are divided into two age groups. So we spent the first two days in the classroom playing games and talking about macro identification. On the last two days we took each group to Sycamore Creek behind the Pow-Wow grounds and showed them first hand where macros live and how we sample for them and identify them.

During this time Kathy has performed several Environmental Assessments for the housing department and gone out with our contractor doing septic surveys. We have also performed several private well samplings. We are continuing the Septic Surveys and Private Well sampling projects.

Upcoming meetings/events include: ITEC Conference, Ottawa County Fair Booth, and the 4-State Watershed Academy.

Please contact us with any questions!
Christen Lee—Environmental Director
918-678-2297 x241

Kathleen Welch—Environmental Assistant
918-678-2297 x235

Janice Wilson—Environmental Technician
918-678-2297 x245

Jessica Stoerger—Env. Education & Recycling Tech
918-678-2297 x252

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Our newest senior duplex is complete and we welcome our newest senior residents. The project was completed on schedule and the residents were able to move in the first week of July.

The Community Center will be the next project under construction. This will be

located in the new housing area. The center will have a safe room, a kitchen, a computer room and a game room, as well as the housing offices. We are looking forward to this center, and feel it will be a great asset to the community. If you would like more information on our housing program, please contact our office. Federal income guidelines are followed.

If you live in the Indian Health Service Area, which includes nine counties in Oklahoma, and are in need of water or sanitation services, please contact us for an application.

We look forward to serving you.
Kathy DeWeese-Housing Director
Valari Richards-Housing Specialist
Paul Paquin-Project Coordinator
Levi Griffin-Project Coordinator
Don Graham-Residential Maintenance Technician

Planning/Development

The Tribe recently was notified that a new Indian Community Development Block Grant was funded. This grant calls for the construction of a Community Facility Center that will be located in the Heritage Acre housing area. As part of the implementation process, selection of an Architect is now underway. Particulars of this project are detailed in the Housing Department article. This facility will be constructed to a "Green Standard" and will be between 7,500 and 8,000 Square Feet. We will assist Housing Department in the administration of this project coordinating roadwork, infrastructure, purchasing and working through the requirements of three federal funding sources.

Completion of the Tribe's Tree Grant is in process. Due to harsh weather conditions a number of trees planted have not survived. We are preparing to replace these trees and plant some additional trees at the Long Building in the fall.

New road construction projects will help alleviate the parking shortage at Bearskin Wellness Center. We have in-

cluded, as part of this year's road projects two new parking lots located on the south side of the Wellness Center. This project also includes repair and sealing of tribal roadways around the Wellness Center and Casino as well as the construction of a road to new recycle center which is west of the Wellness Center.

We are working through several fee to trust applications for the BIA. This requires providing detailed Environmental Site Assessments, providing analysis of impact to local government and illustrating that the federal action of taking tribal land into trust is not going to affect a change in land use.

Implementation of water system improvement project, (which includes construction of well, well house standpipe and water lines and effects two tribal housing areas near State Highway 10), requires finishing out easements/right of ways. The water system construction documents have been submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for purpose of obtaining construction permits.

A strategic planning process has begun, meetings with several department heads have been held to discuss department strengths, weakness, opportunity and threats to cover a 2 to 3 year horizon and to formulate 10 year plans. Part of this planning process requires obtaining tribal member input. We need to develop and implement a needs assessment survey. One method is to utilize on-line survey instrument.

If you have any questions for the Planning Department, you may contact:
Ron Kaiser, Planning/Development Director – (918) 678-2297 ext. 225
Debbie Dry, Planning/Development Specialist – (918) 678-2297 ext. 215

Education Department

Preschool:

The acceptance letters for Wyandotte Nation Preschool have been sent to the (continued on next page)

Tribal Department Reports

(continued from previous page)
homes of 73 students for the fall of 2012. Open house will be held on August 13, 2012 and the school year will begin on August 15, 2012. If you are interested in our Preschool program please request an application soon as we can only accommodate 80 students at this time.

Before and After School Program:

Before and after school programs will resume operation on August 15, 2012. We have 21 children enrolled for the program at this time.

Library:

The summer reading program that Leeanna and Elnora implemented has been quite popular with several young readers in the community. The UPS man has become the newest friend to the library staff during the last few weeks. We are receiving some new releases and several requested items from our patrons. If you are in the area, please stop by and complete an application to become a patron! The Wyandotte Nation grant writing team spent several days working on a grant to enhance the services offered at our library. Award recipients will be announced in September.

Child Care & Development Fund Program:

The Child Care child count has been submitted and we are awaiting results to see what level of funding we will receive for the next program year. The assistance program is available to tribal members who reside within 100 miles of headquarters. To ask questions about the program or to speak with staff about any child care related issue, just all the office and speak to Loretta or Tammy.

Tribal Scholarships:

The number of tribal scholarship recipients is increasing as the information spreads to tribal members. It is not too late to apply for the fall semester!! The application process is very easy and the form may be found in the member's only section of the Wyandotte Nation

website.

If you have questions about any of the education programs at the Wyandotte Nation, please contact Tammy Charles at Ext. 230 or Loretta Combes at Ext. 243.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

Larry Hamilton has been busy attending the Kansas Workforce meetings and communicating with Crowder College to learn how we can work together to best meet the needs of the Native American students in our service area.

Submitted by:

Tammy R. Charles
Education Director

Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center

by Kelly Walker

Where has summer gone? It has been a hot one, but so much fun here at Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center. We have been busier than ever with our regular usage at an all-time summer high for the wellness center, patients coming and going in the clinic, the new Bearskin Youth Program hitting the ground, childcare services and our annual summer program (coordinated with the Environmental, Education and Family Services Departments). It adds up to a full house! We love it and wouldn't have it any other way! Our mission is being fulfilled as we are here to continuously promote wellness through fitness resources, primary and preventative healthcare of the highest quality and educational resources to tribal members and the community we serve. If you haven't been in recently, come in and see all that the facility and staff have to offer.

Preparations are underway for the Eleventh Annual Health Fest. Mark your calendars for October 13, 2012 with hours from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. There are activities for all ages and free of charge. These include: cholesterol and glucose screenings, snacks, inflata-

bles, hay ride, health information, door prizes, vendor information, pumpkin painting, 5K, fun walk and more. It's a pleasurable morning for all involved.

Bearskin Youth Program is at the maximum capacity, with 21 youth, ages 12 – 17 enrolled and actively participating. Not only are they having fun, but learning leadership and life skills to further advance them as respected leaders of tomorrow. Activities have included swimming, science center field trip, fishing, and bowling, projects with the GRDA for boating safety, Pensacola Dam, trash pickup, career services, nutrition, health promotion and multiple games. This summer over 40 hours have been logged doing community service.

Richard Bearskin, Ashlee Davis and Cyron Hibbard proudly represented the Wyandotte Nation at the Native Youth Leadership and Athletic Academy in Portland, Oregon during the month of June. These three individuals were given the opportunity to interact with other Native Youth from around the country and learn of their tribal culture, language and spiritual beliefs in a positive manner. These three have shown great potential in their leadership abilities by being a positive role model to their peers and other youth in the immediate community.

Leagues are forming and classes are making in the fitness center for men's basketball, cross fit like class, step aerobics, zumba, aqua zumba, water aerobics, swim lessons, 3-2-1, and more. Come check us out and get involved. Get a jump on starting and maintaining your healthy lifestyle!

ELDER SERVICES

The Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow will be here before we know it. We are anxious to see everyone again and hopefully meet some new faces at the Cultural Events during the week.

Brenda just returned from a full week (continued on next page)

Tribal Dept. Reports

(continued from previous page)

of training in Denver, CO. getting up dates of the New Dietary Guidelines, Food Safety, Policies and Procedures, Safety and Sanitation, Caregiver Support Services, Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia, etc.

Please mark your calendars for October 3, 2012 for the Medicare Part D/Diabetes Health Screening. It will be held in the Artie Nesvold Community Center from 9 am to 1 pm.

Our Halloween Party will be held Wednesday, October 31. We will have a Costume Contest and prizes.

Our Music Parties are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

CAREGIVER

The Caregiver Support Group meets the first Thursday of each month in the Education/Environmental conference room at 10:30 am. It is open to all Caregivers. Please contact Brenda for information.

We are always available to be of service to the Wyandotte Nation Tribal Members and feel so blessed to be a part of the Wyandotte Nation. Please feel free to call or come by and see us any time. Brenda House, Elder Services Director ext. 227

Kandi Smith, Food Service Team Supervisor ext. 228

Leesa Hibbard, Lynda Wilson, and Seth Higginbotham, Food Service Team Members ext. 228

Berle Blevins, Experience Works Program ext. 228

Menu, ext. 226

New Hires



The Human Resource Department is very happy to welcome Becki Burleson. Becki will serve as the Human Resource Assistant and will assist the department in all of its day to day operations. Becki transferred from the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma where she was Human Resource Specialist for five years. Becki has over twelve years of Human Resource experience and brings a wealth of knowledge. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family including her two granddaughters. She also enjoys spending time outdoors, shopping, and is a HUGE OSU fan. We are very fortunate to have Becki on our team and wish her much success in her new position.



The Bearskin Fitness Center is very happy to welcome Travis Rhatigan. Travis will serve as the Fitness Center Assistant Manager and will assist the department in all of its day to day

operations. Travis was previously a coach at the college level. Travis has over fourteen years of experience as a Teacher/Coach and brings a wealth of knowledge in the fitness area with him. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his kids. He also enjoys spending time outdoors and is currently working on a rock medicine wheel, and is expecting his fourth child within days. We are very fortunate to have Travis on our team and wish him much success in his new position.



The Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center is very happy to welcome Brian Workman. Brian will serve as the Clinical Pharmacist and will be responsible for the implementation, set up, and the management of the Pharmacy. Brian has over nineteen years of combined experience as a Pharmacist in both hospital and retail settings. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his daughter Madelyn. He also enjoys spending time playing the banjo in a band, and is an avid hunter. We are very fortunate to have Brian on our team and wish him much success in his new position.

A Special Thank You

I would like to thank all my friends, the Wyandotte Nation, and many people I don't even know. I never knew one little fat lady in Wyandotte, Oklahoma had so many friends and acquaintances who cared so much about my well being. I am overwhelmed by all the prayers I've been told were said from coast to coast and border to border on my behalf. I never would have survived this illness without them. I received so many beautiful plants, floral arrangements and cards that really helped cheer me up.

If I have missed anyone I sincerely apologize. I am completely overwhelmed by all that has transpired during this time.

Barbara Bearskin
Wyandotte, OK



2012 Summer Youth Camp winners – Ethan Rogers, Elijah Champion, Kyah Enyart, Madison O'Dell. Campers were eligible daily for good decision making dollars which were used to draw from for a winner in each age and gender group.



Bearskin Youth Program Activities – Dickerson Park Zoo



Bearskin Youth Program – Sky Ranch



Pensacola Dam



Dickerson Park Zoo



Exploring sycamore creek

Exhibit Grand Opening September 6

“The Gathering of Traditions”

A Centennial Celebration of Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau in Oklahoma

Who met with Dr. Barbeau and sold their belongings?

How did they look and sound?

This exhibit it is going to show you and amaze you! Do not miss it!

By Sallie Cotter Andrews

In the last issue of Gyah'-Wish-Atak-Ia the Culture Committee shared exciting news and background information about the upcoming exhibit entitled “The Gathering of Traditions – A Centennial Celebration of Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau in Oklahoma.” The exhibit, a partnership with the Wyandotte Nation, Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, Sam Noble Museum and the Canadian Museum of Civilization will open at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at The University of Oklahoma at 1 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, 2012.

Since that announcement, the Culture Committee and the team from the Sam Noble Museum have been gathering stories and information about the owners or creators of the artifacts to add deeper context to the exhibit. The stories are shining a light into this period of history and are documenting the resiliency and dynamic spirit of our people. Each story has some amazing fact or facts. For example, we have learned that the owner of a wooden bowl was a speech writer and advisor to

Tecumseh. We have stories of both Union and Confederate Civil War soldiers, a Wyandotte baby born in Kansas six weeks before the rest of the nation arrived there, an earthquake, court cases including the U.S. Supreme Court, a firing squad, a 104-year old Wyandotte woman who remembered her nation's history perfectly and told it in a newspaper article, a \$94.50 funeral, a marriage with chicken and dumplings, a half-sister who went back to Upper Sandusky to live, a philosopher and keeper of the old ways, a recipe for salve, a man who loved horse racing and threshing machines, a Friends preacher, a World War I veteran, a boy who was the best student worker in the school, a Wyandot girl educated in Cincinnati by the “Father of the American Wine Industry,” a Civil War veteran killed in a car wreck, a murder over a land boundary dispute, and more.

To further enhance the exhibit, Culture Committee member Katie Chinn with the assistance of Dr. Craig Kopriss, linguist, are creating audio recordings in Wanda of our traditional stories as well as descriptive words for the artifacts. “Their work is fantastic. At the exhibit we will hear the voice of Catherine Coon Johnson recorded by Dr. Barbeau in 1912; then Catherine's voice will transition into Katie Chinn's voice as Katie continues on with Catherine's story. Katie and Dr. Kopriss have tirelessly worked to achieve a faithful reconstruction of Wanda as spoken by our ancestors in 1911-12

and beyond from the incredibly detailed field notes of Dr. Barbeau,” explains Lloyd Divine, Chairman of the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee.

Dr. Daniel Swan, Associate Curator of Ethnology at the Sam Noble Museum, and his team have spent two days in the Wyandotte area videoing Wyandotte and Seneca-Cayuga citizens. During the next few weeks the professional staff at the Sam Noble Museum will draw all of these pieces together, along with the artifacts and historic photographs coming from the Canadian Museum of Civilization, to create the exhibit that will be both educational and inspirational.

The Culture Committee would like to thank everyone who has assisted with this project to date, including the story writers and researchers, tribal staff, Chief Billy Friend and 2nd Chief Norman Hildebrand, the Wyandotte Nation Board of Directors, Dr. Craig Kopriss, Paul Barton, our families and friends, and Dr. Swan and his team.

Mark your calendar now. Complete the Culture Days registration form on line or in this newsletter and turn it in today. Let September 6, 2012, be your special day to go to the grand opening. The exhibit will be on display through November 25. Please visit www.wyandotte-nation.org or www.snomnh.ou.edu for more information.

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Gathering

The gathering of stories and biographical information for the upcoming Barbeau Exhibit gives new insight into the lives of our ancestors. It also has brought forward photographs that we have never seen before! Mr. LeRoy Rhodes of Raymond, CA, a Wyandotte Nation citizen and descendant of Maggie Coon, sent a number of photographs for the exhibit including three from 1915 featuring students at the Indian Boarding School that include his mother, Lola Marie Wright Rhodes. These photographs are real treasures. If you can identify any of the other young ladies in these three photographs or their teacher, please call 817-455-0819 or email culture@wyandotte-nation.org. We want to thank Mr. Rhodes for sharing his photographs with all of us.



Miss Lola Marie Wright is young lady third from right.

Ms. Lola Marie Wright is the first young lady on the left.



Miss Lola Marie Wright is the young lady on the far right. This photograph was taken in 1915 at the Chapman Studio in Seneca, MO.

Culture Days 2012 Registration

THE GATHERING OF TRADITIONS

If you are planning to attend Culture Days it is imperative that you register this year no later than August 27, 2012. We are anticipating a large turnout with Oklahoma, Kansas, Anderdon, Wendake and Seneca-Cayuga citizens participating. This will be a historic event that you will not want to miss so please register today. There is limited seating available for the trip to the Sam Noble Museum on Thursday. You must register and receive confirmation of your reserved seat. If you register and do not receive confirmation your seat may not be reserved. Please fill out this form and mail it to the address below or register online at **www.Wyandotte-Nation.org**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Nation: Oklahoma ___ Kansas ___ Anderdon ___ Wendake ___ Seneca-Cayuga ___

Other: _____

I will be attending: Sept. 4 ___ Sept. 5 ___ Sept. 6 ___ All Days ___

Special Interest*: Finger Weaving ___ Loom Beading ___ Advanced Language ___

Reserve My Seat To The Exhibit: Yes ___ No ___

Will You Be Bringing Guests: Yes ___ No ___ How Many (including yourself) ___



THE GATHERING OF TRADITIONS

A Centennial Celebration of Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau in Oklahoma



Sam Noble Museum - University of Oklahoma

Wyandotte Nation
Tribal Heritage Department
64790 E. Highway 60
Wyandotte, OK 74370

918-678-2297 ext. 244
culture@wyandotte-nation.org

**Please just choose one special interest as sessions are held simultaneously.*

Services Provided to Tribal Members

Services	Program Contacts	Phone Numbers	Ext.	Email
Clinic	Kelly Walker	(918)-678-3259	4459	kwalker@wyandotte-nation.org
Dental - Vision	Amanda Johnston	(918)-678-3221	4457	ajohnston@wyandotte-nation.org
Clinic (for appointments)	Linda Coatney	(918)-678-3228	4428	lcoatney@wyandotte-nation.org
Clinic (for appointments)	Elaine Fidler	(918)-678-3230	4430	efidler@wyandotte-nation.org
Pharmacy (Call in only)	Carolyn Nesvold	(918)-678-2282	4424	cnesvold@wyandotte-nation.org
Fitness Center	Sharon Bartley	(918)-678-2070		sbartley@wyandotte-nation.org
Contract Health	Bridget Burleson	(918)-678-3227	4427	bburleson@wyandotte-nation.org
Diabetes Clinic	Donna Spaulding	(918)-678-3258	4458	dspaulding@wyandotte-nation.org
Nutrition	Brenda House	(918)-678-2297	227	bhouse@wyandotte-nation.org
Caregiver Services	Brenda House	(918)-678-2297	227	bhouse@wyandotte-nation.org
Enrollment / Tags	Dana Butterfield	(918)-678-2297	219	dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org
Tribal Social Worker	Tara Gragg	(918)-678-2297	255	tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org
Housing Programs	Kathy DeWeese	(918)-678-2297	239	kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org
Student Housing Assistance	Kathy DeWeese	(918)-678-2297	239	kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org
Housing Improvements	Kathy DeWeese	(918)-678-2297	239	kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org
Well Septic Construction	Kathy DeWeese	(918)-678-2297	239	kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org
School Supplies	Kate Randall	(918)-678-2297	224	krandall@wyandotte-nation.org
Car Seats	Kate Randall	(918)-678-2297	224	krandall@wyandotte-nation.org
Emergency Assistance	Kate Randall	(918)-678-2297	224	krandall@wyandotte-nation.org
Scholarships	Tammy Charles	(918)-678-2297	230	tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org
Job Training	Tammy Charles	(918)-678-2297	230	tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org
Preschool	Tammy Charles	(918)-678-2297	230	tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org
Library	Tammy Charles	(918)-678-2297	230	tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org
Adult Education	Tammy Charles	(918)-678-2297	230	tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org
Childcare	Tammy Charles	(918)-678-2297	230	tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org
Environmental	Christen Lee	(918)-678-2297	241	clee@wyandotte-nation.org
Human Resources	Deana Howard	(918)-678-2297	220	dhoward@wyandotte-nation.org
Turtle Trax Printing	Pat Wilson	(918)-678-2297	238	pwilson@wyandotte-nation.org
Historical	Sherri Clemons	(918)-678-2297	244	sclemons@wyandotte-nation.org
Planning/Development	Ron Kaiser	(918) 678-2297	225	rkaiser@wyandotte-nation.org
Duty Phone		(918) 325-0025		kmurphy@wyandotte-nation.org