The Turtle Speaks

Gyah’-Wish Atak-ia

24th Annual Pow-Wow

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A Fitting Tribute

William Swaim/Wyandotte Nation

A chair was reserved for Chief Leaford Bearskin at the 24th Annual Pow-Wow. Veterans paid their respect to Chief Bearskin and fellow veterans. The Pow-Wow was held Sept. 13-15 at the Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow grounds.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Nov. 14, 2013
Thanksgiving Dinner
The Title VI Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will have turkey and dressing, and all the trimmings.

Friday, Nov. 15, 2013
Thanksgiving Dinner
The Preschool’s Thanksgiving dinner.

Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013
Christmas Dinner
The Title VI Annual Christmas Dinner will have brisket, all the trimmings and homemade candy.

Contact us
Submit a story idea or your latest news and photos. To submit, email William Swaim at wswaim@wtok.org or call (918) 848-0724.

Have an interesting story to tell?
We are looking for tribal members to feature in upcoming issues, whether you live in the Oklahoma area or some far off distant land, we want to hear from you for a new ‘Getting to Know,’ feature. You can suggest relatives and friends as well if you think they would be interesting to feature. The “Getting to Know” feature will be a Q&A.

We want to hear from you!

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HOLIDAYS
The Tribe offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

- Veterans Day, Nov. 11
- Thanksgiving, Nov. 28-29
- Christmas, Dec. 24-25
- New Year’s, Dec. 31 - Jan. 1
- *Chinese Gift Exchange Party, Friday, Dec. 13 (Offices will close about 11 a.m. for the remainder of the day)
Lessons from past shape future

From the Chief...
Billy Friend

Kweh,
I hope this quarter’s newsletter finds you and your family doing well and enjoying the beautiful fall season.

In thinking of where we are today as a tribal nation, I am reminded of Winston Churchill’s quote, “The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see.”

When I consider the history and progress of the Wyandotte Nation, I am frequently reminded of Churchill’s statement. Our Tribe, unlike so many tribes, has displayed a true commitment to recalling our past in great detail.

Our history teaches us that our ancestors were always skilled at analyzing the actions of the French, British and eventually, the young American state. Learning from past experience and putting those lessons to use proved to be a great strength of the Wyandottes.

During the period of removal, Wyandotte leaders were diligent in negotiating the best terms and conditions with the United States. The experience was obviously not a positive one, but the Wyandotte people were always able to adapt and persevere in the most extreme conditions.

If Wyandottes are anything, we are adaptable. Once in Indian Territory, Wyandottes were soon about the business of tribal government, community building and sharing the resources that were available. Not content with the federal government’s ability to provide quality services to the people, leaders focused efforts on self-determination and eventually became one of the first tribes in the United States to enter into a self-governance compact with the federal government. The Wyandottes soon established a new constitution and re-energized the uniqueness of the Wyandotte Nation.

Throughout history, Wyandottes have adapted to times of abundance and times of famine. Throughout the 19th and much of the 20th Centuries, the tribe had to adapt seemingly all the time. Survival and eventual re-emergence as a powerful tribe are tributes to the perseverance and commitment to one another.

In our modern Wyandotte era, the tribe has continued the process of learning lessons from previous experiences and putting those lessons to good use.

Education has been a key factor in both personal and tribal successes resulting in an emphasis to our children. Traditions called for honoring elders, for this reason programs developed and structures built to assist in making their lives healthy.

Great turnout for another successful culture days

From the Second Chief...
Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

Kweh,
I hope everyone is well and in good spirits. The weather here has been fantastic. We are expecting some much needed rain the next few days so maybe that will start the fall colors coming out.

The government shutdown hasn’t affected us very much at the moment, but if it goes on for an extended time we will definitely feel the effects with government agencies at reduced staff or shut down completely. Hopefully these so-called politicians will come to their senses and realize what this shutdown is doing to our country.

Culture Days this year was fantastic and we had a large crowd every day. Everyone showed a lot of enthusiasm for the special interest classes. This year we had pine needle basket weaving, flint knapping and the history of our Great Chiefs.

I want to thank the Culture Committee, Holly and Kristen Zane and Jim Spears, the gentleman that taught the flint knapping, for doing a wonderful job. I would also like to apologize to all of our tribal members for the rescheduling of Culture Days, Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow, but our Constitution dictates when to have our elections and the calendar just didn’t cooperate this year. We will have the same dilemma next year as well since next year will also be an election year. Then we will be back on schedule for these events.

We had a few kids this year at Culture Days so we
Recently-elected Grievance Committee Members and Wyandotte Nation Board of Directors were sworn in Friday morning, Oct. 11, at the Tribal Administration building. Darlene Trimble, Catherine Hitchcock and Derald Clemons were sworn into the Grievance Committee while Juanita McQuistion, Ramona Reid and Eric Lofland were sworn in to the Board of Directors. Billy Friend was sworn in as Chief. Rob Nesvold, Chairman of the Election Committee, did the swearing in.

Chief

Continued from Page 3

and rewarding. The well-being of Wyandotte people is critically important this allowed a commitment to allocate resources to health care for all Wyandottes. There is, of course, so much more. Together, our Wyandotte relatives, past and present, have built a strong foundation for the present and future generations.

Honor is given to the past and lessons learned from it. It must never be forgotten what has taken place before, because as a people, the Wyandottes have encountered more than a fair share of battles and must take the best from those experiences and build on those for a greater future.

To forget the past is unimaginable to Wyandottes. To learn from the past is the key to the present and future. May our Creator continue to watch over and bless all our Wyandotte families throughout the world.

“God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.” Psalms 67:1

Second Chief

Continued from Page 3

are in the planning process to have activities for kids during their summer vacation. We all feel it is important to get more kids involved in learning Native American crafts and dancing to secure the future of our tribal history. Parental encouragement is very important in the nurturing of these young minds to carry on our cultural ways for future generations.

The election went smoothly having it for the first time at the Wellness Center. I want to thank all of our tribal members that voted for being patient as we continue to experience growing pains.

We continue to strive to move the Wyandotte Nation forward in a positive direction that will benefit all tribal members and keep all social services active. That is why we are always working to diversify Tribal businesses to better plan for the Wyandotte Nation’s future.

Construction on the Community Center is progressing. We are looking at a finish date in the middle of January, but of course the weather will always be a factor.

In the next few weeks we will start the planning of our Museum and Culture Center to be built on the hill south of our Wellness and Recycling Centers.

There are a lot of good things happening here at the Wyandotte Nation and we look forward to a brighter future for all. I am very proud to be able to serve the Wyandotte Nation as Second Chief. Every day I see how hard the staff works to better the lives of our tribal members. I want to thank each and every one of them for their dedication and love for the Wyandotte Nation. Our employees are the reason that we can continue to carry out Chief Bearskin’s vision and keep the Wyandotte Nation the Greatest Nation in the Indian World.

Tizameh

“Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children.” -Chief Sitting Bull
Preserving History
Culture Center plans progressing following grant award

BY WILLIAM SWAIM
WYANDOTTE NATION

An idea that has been in the works for years can finally come to fruition as the Wyandotte Nation received a key grant to move forward on plans for a Culture Center.

The 6,620-square foot Culture Center will be located on the old Indian school site just south and west of the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center.

“This is a giant step for our Nation,” said Sherri Clemmons, Tribal Heritage Director. “The dreams we and those before us have had to not only house the many artifacts the Nation already has, but also the ones people are holding onto until there was a place to safely keep them.

“This is so wonderful for the future of our history.”

The Wyandotte Nation applied for and received an Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) through HUD. The $800,000 grant will cover most of the cost for the $1.474 million project. The rest will come from tribal funds ($434,285) and through the Indian Reservation Roads Funds ($240,000).

Wyandotte Nation Planning Specialist Debbie Dry said the grant is highly competitive and awarded just once every year. She said the center could include an auditorium, library, conference room, kitchen, a saferoom to store artifacts and educational classrooms as well as house the tribal historic office.

Ron Kaiser, Senior Advisor in the Planning Department, said the Culture Center will also likely feature geothermal heating and cooling, making the building energy efficient.

“Over time, there has always been this desire to have a museum or someplace where the tribe had the ability to display and store artifacts of the tribe,” Kaiser said, adding that during that time, the idea of building a culture center rather than a museum came about.

“The idea was that the tribal community would have a place for learning Wyandotte culture, teaching Wyandotte culture and explaining Wyandotte culture. And that has been an objective in this process.”

Kaiser said the next step in the process is for the planning group, of which he is a part of, to visit other culture centers for ideas.

For the latest news updates, visit www.wyandotte-nation.org or visit us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/wyandottenation.

Submit your News: Submit a story idea or your latest news and photos. To submit, email William Swaim at wswaim@wtok.org or call (918) 848-0724. Or mail to: The Wyandotte Nation, 64700 E Hwy 60, Wyandotte, OK 74370, ATTN: TurtleTalk.
Fire & Ice: D.A.R.E. car sends message

BY WILLIAM SWAIM
Wyandotte Nation

The Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police Department’s new D.A.R.E. car is sure to turn heads and capture attention, and that is just what D.A.R.E. Officer Ken Brodrick is hoping for. “It will be a ‘kid magnet’ where it will draw them out. When they see this car, hopefully they will realize what D.A.R.E. stands for,” said Brodrick, who has been teaching D.A.R.E. the past 18 years, the last few with the WNTPD. “It’s not just about saying no to drugs, it’s about how to make good decisions; life skills; it’s about making good, positive friends. Hopefully they see that and it will be a constant reminder to them. I’ll use it as a tool to make conversation with the students.”

The new Chevy Camaro, purchased in June to replace the older D.A.R.E. vehicle, features a design concept of fire and ice. A concept Brodrick developed himself. It features ice melting from the front bumper toward the back of the car where fire highlights the vehicle. It features the D.A.R.E. program, the tribal police department logo, and several messages designed into the different graphic elements. Messages such as, “It’s easier to stay off drugs then to get off drugs.”

For Brodrick, 56, it’s a dream come true. “I had this dream years ago of fire and ice - the ice melting and putting out the fire. The fire being the drugs, the bad decisions, the not resisting and giving into peer pressure,” he said. “D.A.R.E. teaming up with the police department is the ice and water coming back and putting out the fire.

“I finally found someone who could take what was in my mind, a dream, and put it on the car and bring it to life. It’s like Disney World where dreams do come true. Never give up on your dreams. It’s a great thing.”

Taking the concept and making it a reality was the work of Brian Shivley and Prime Elements, based out of Carthage, Mo. “We went with two-prong approach. What we tried to do is accomplish a really cool looking car. So people would be attracted to it, so it had that ‘wow’ factor,” Shivley said. “But then we also tried to do a bunch of Easter eggs down in the design so as people came closer to it, it would give officers time to have conversations with the kids because it keeps them looking at the car. That was the approach – a big ‘wow’ factor from far away and the Easter egg hunt when they get close.”

Annual Meeting highlights successful 2013

The 2013 Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting took place Saturday morning, Sept. 14, at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center gym. Chief Billy Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Jr. introduced staff, 2013 highlights and presented the State of the Nation.

Rick Crawford was recognized as the 2013 Honored Person and a couple of special presentations were made during the meeting, including Lt. Col. Steve Gray presenting William Wright’s medals to the Wyandotte Nation.

(William Swaim/Wyandotte Nation)
Summer Intern Program

The Wyandotte Nation took the youth in its Summer Intern Program on a trip to one of the former homelands. The interns visited Michigan and Canada, and joined with the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation in learning more about the history of the Wyandottes.

Our kids and our future

By Lloyd Divine
Wyandotte Nation
Culture Committee Chairman

It was late Friday morning and Culture Days was quickly coming to a close. We were in the last scheduled session when an amazing thing happened.

Culture committee members were conducting a very informal Q&A to answer random or clarify lingering questions from the mass of material presented over the previous two days. Our focus this year was twofold; a general yet compelling look at our chiefs, and a study of our culture based upon clan and elected forms of tribal government. Much to my surprise even with the mass of history presented, this year received more compliments on its content than most of the previous nine years combined.

We love our chiefs and who doesn’t like to hear stories, both good and bad, that makes these incredible men come to life; however, it wasn’t a question about our chiefs that gave us the memorable moment.

As we were discussing questions relevant to our clans I noticed a few people walk into the gymnasium that I had not seen all week. In their company were two fine looking young men, brothers about 10 and 12 years of age. It just so happened at that moment we were discussing the effects of witchcraft within the clans and tribe. This conversation really caught the boys’ attention. I made the statement if someone was caught practicing witchcraft it was immediately punishable with death. The younger of the two boys stopped the conversation and asked, “How would they have been killed?” Yikes!

I did not want to answer his question without first getting permission from his grandmother. It would have been a rather brutal death. She consented and a description was given much to his disgust and delight. The amazing moment was seeing his interest and being able to interact with both him and his brother even if it was for just a few brief minutes.

Come to find out they were from Chicago. Their interest and enthusiasm complimented like interest of two other young men that participated all week with the adults. These two young men are brothers from Seneca. During Culture Days one of the brothers from Seneca learned that some special kinds of rocks are not only good for throwing but are also good for making arrowheads. After sitting and participating in the two arrowhead making classes I have no doubt he will quickly become a master knapper. I look forward to him teaching some knapping classing in our new cultural center in the coming years.

Everything we have done with Culture Days over the last decade was fully justified and realized with the participation of the four Wyandotte boys that are part of the wealth and future of our tribe. We would not be here today if it were not for our ancestor as it’s from their struggles, triumphs and failures we gain hope, strength and resolve.

Our continued greatness and the future of our tribe depend on our children and youth claiming and taking an active role in their own future. Our kids are the future of our tribe.

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Future  

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and seeing just four of them at Culture Days this year was beyond priceless.
Well, actually there were six. Two of our youth volunteered to help the Culture Committee during the activities and they did a fantastic job!
Please watch our tribal website in the coming months as the Culture Committee makes some big announcements regarding a renewed focus on our children and youth. With the help of parents we must get our kids interested and involved as the future of all Wyandottes depend upon this hope.
Start making plans today for June 13, 14 and 15, 2014. This weekend will be the first of many activities where our kids will be the focus. We have some great kids and when they begin to fully understand who they are as Wyandottes they are phenomenal!

Reconnecting with Wyandotte Clans

BY LLOYD DIVINE  
WYANDOTTE NATION CULTURE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

After closing Culture Days this last September, I was quickly approached by a lady from Colorado Springs. I had no idea who she was.
Fortunately during Culture Days conversations are easy, even with ‘strangers,’ as we are all one big Wyandotte family. Come to find out we were family. Her relatives, as do mine, trace back to Eliza Armstrong Bland. Her family comes from Eliza’s eldest daughter, Catherine Bland Crotzer, and mine from Eliza’s eldest son John Bland, Jr.
At one point during a discussion with the Culture Days attendees I mentioned I was a Porcupine. This caught Ferne’s attention as she also identified herself as being a Porcupine. Eliza was of the Porcupine clan; hence, our own personal identities as Porcupines.
If I had not mentioned I was a Porcupine we likely would not have come to the knowledge we were related. When we start talking about our clans things get complicated very quick, but nothing outside our traditional language is more a unique cultural identifier as our clans.
Very few Wyandottes can claim to have an unbroken clan lineage as most of us have a broken branch somewhere in our family tree. Yet even with these breaks most Wyandottes still identify themselves with a clan. Because of this indirect claiming of a clan, and not through a direct lineal descendant from mother to child, most Wyandottes claim their clan. Their clan heritage is broken, but the clan of their ancestors is not forgotten.
In the coming months and years as our children are given opportunities to participate in cultural activities, I and the other members of the Culture Committee would like to see our clans come out of hibernation. No, they cannot be truly reinstated to a place of ancient traditional relevance; however, they are too important to minimize, ignore, or say they are no longer relevant because of the broken branches.
As long as Wyandottes claim citizenship with a clan, the memory and life of that clan will never die. We want the clans to live again. We want to see many little Porcupines, Bears, Wolves, Snakes, Big Turtles, Small Turtles, and Deer running, jumping and crawling all over the place. Along with the kids we also want to see their moms and dads begin to reclaim and reconnect with their clans.
We want the citizens of each clan to reconnect and become family just as Ferne and I did at Culture Days. Neither the Wyandotte Nation nor the Culture Committee can reinstate the clans. The tribe

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House honored with national leadership award

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4A) awarded Brenda House, the Wyandotte Nation Title VI Elder Services Director, with the prestigious Excellence in Leadership Award.

House was chosen from the 239 Title VI programs nationwide.

House said she was surprised by the honor — literally — at the award ceremony in Louisville, Ky.

“They tricked me. They told me a lady I’m real good friends with was the one to be honored. So I was sitting there, excited for her, and then they called my name and had my picture up on a huge screen. I was speechless,” she said. “It really meant a lot to me. We don’t do it for the glory; we do it for the elders, and not just Indian elders, but all elders.”

The n4A Excellence in Leadership Award annually recognizes a director of an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and a Title VI Native American Aging program who have demonstrated exceptional leadership at the local, state and/or national level in advancing the mission of the Older Americans Act and preparing communities for the rapidly aging population. This award is n4A’s highest honor.

House has been employed with the Wyandotte Nation since 1987. During her 26-year tenure, she developed a pharmacy program for homebound elders; developed a safety program for elders and caregivers; developed an arts and craft shop; developed successful fundraisers; and provided tours and trips for elders.

One of her most significant accomplishments is the cooperative agreement she initiated between the Wyandotte Nation and DOCServices Older Americans Act program to deliver meals to homebound elders in rural, isolated areas of Northeast Oklahoma.

Clans

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was a product of the clans. The clans were not a product of the tribe. Because of this reality we cannot reinstate the clans in reverse.

If you identify yourself with a clan seek out others with the same identity just as Ferne and I did a few weeks ago. All we ask and hope is that you have proof your ancestor was a citizen of the clan you identify. The Wyandotte tribe did not conduct, nor do we have official censuses of the clans as the tribe had no right to interfere with clan ‘business.’

However, there are a few lists that do exist. If you need help determining the clan of an ancestor we would be willing to help you reconnect to the best of our limited ability.

If you do not know the last known clan of an ancestor and proof cannot be found, we encourage you to request and then seek adoption into one of the clans.

Our clans are very, very important to the tribe and it is up to the citizens of each clan to reconnect. To help encourage this, the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee has created a special place on our tribe’s website so the clans can easily reconnect - Clan Connections.

If you have not already done so, you will need to contact the Family Services Department to gain access to the Citizens Only portion of our website. Once inside you will see a link for each clan to access a basic forum where conversation can be had. At the bottom of the page just type in your message, hit the enter or return key and your message will be posted.

In time as each clan begins to reconnect we hope they become organized with each choosing a clan mother and her council of women, along with one man to serve as clan chief. Because the clans have been dormant for so long, going all the way back to 1828 when the first tribal elections were held replacing our clan-based government, reinstated clans can only be for social and ceremonial purposes only. The clans cannot and will not hold any political power or influence to contest our elected tribal officials.

Who will be the first from each clan to post a message in your clans Clan Connection page? I have already posted one for the Porcupines. In time if enough interest is generated we will look into creating a special Facebook page for the clans to claim and reconnect.

Who knows, we may even secure a standalone website just for the clans. Until then the Wyandotte Nation and the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee are calling for the clans to immediately reunite and reorganize.

You may be asking why just seven clans? We assume some to be extinct or they consolidated with other clans. The acknowledged seven clans is based on a list of male voters obtained on May 29, 1874. In order for the men to vote in that year’s tribal elections they had to declare their clan citizenship. Unfortunately the women, from whom the clans descended, were not allowed to vote. Another list of clan citizens was obtained in 1911-12 by Dr. Charles Marius Barbeau. His list contained the Hawk and Beaver clans which were assumed to be extinct in 1874. It may be possible these clans did indeed live but were not recorded as there were no male voters of the required age to vote.

As for Barbeau’s listing of the Snake clan this shows an influence and inclusion of individuals from the Seneca-Cayuga essentially forming a new clan of the Wyandottes.

Do any of our citizens claim to be a Snake? We do not know. As I mentioned earlier, when we start talking clans things get complicated really quick. Let’s not let the complications deter our efforts to revive and reconnect the clans. Below is the link to Clan Connections, go check it out today and get reconnected.

http://www.wyandotte-nation.org/citizen/clan-connections/
24th Annual Pow-Wow

The 24th Annual Pow-Wow was held Friday, Sept. 13 to Sunday, Sept. 15 at the Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow Grounds. The event attracted people from all over.

To see all the photos from the Pow-Wow, visit our Facebook page and ‘Like’ us.
Wyandotte Nation
Casino report
By Casey Ellett
The 2013 fiscal has come and gone, and we are proud to say that Wyandotte Nation Casino completed the fiscal year in style. In September, Wyandotte Nation Casino successfully pulled off the 2nd Annual Touchdown Tailgate Giveaway. With over 1,200 guests in attendance and nearly $75,000 in jackpots, it certainly was a lucky night for many guests, but it was Melton L. who took home the grand prize! Melton ended the night a proud owner of a brand-new 2014 Chevy Silverado.

November and December are looking to be some action-packed months featuring a variety of festive promotions. Whether you are on the search for some “Turkey Day Treasure” in November (Thanksgiving drawings) or wondering if you have been “Naughty or Nice” in December (Christmas email giveaway), Wyandotte Nation Casino will be your destination for a good time!

As always, I like closing with a “thank you” to all parties that help make Wyandotte Nation Casino such a great place to work and play. We have a special group of people here at WNC, and I am truly proud to be a part of it. Let’s bring on 2014!

Lucky Turtle Casino
By Wacy Humble
The summer months have come to an end, and the Lucky Turtle Casino is gearing up for the holiday season. In the months to come the calendar is jammed packed with exciting promotions, including cash Power Pick drawings, Match Play offers, and popcorn parties just to name a few.

If shopping isn’t your bag, the Lucky Turtle is the place to be on “Black Friday,” Nov. 29. Power Pick drawings will be held every 30 minutes from 5 to 9 p.m. for $200 cash. From there, we move forward to the much anticipated New Year’s Eve celebration Dec. 31, sending out 2013 in style.

The New Year’s Eve celebration will begin at 7 p.m. with Power Pick drawings every 30 minutes for $114 cash. Plus, we will start 2014 off right with a final midnight Power Pick drawing for $2,014 cash. And of course, it wouldn’t be a party without food and party favors. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Lucky Turtle to ring in the New Year.

As always we greatly appreciate all of the valued guests and staff at Lucky Turtle Casino, none of which would be possible without them.

Teams build lemonade stands, raise money for Arkansas charity
By William Swaim
Wyandotte Nation

The Wyandotte Nation brought 45 of its top leaders to Rogers, Ark., to get ‘back to the basics’ by building lemonade stands at Pinnacle Hills Promenade Thursday, Aug. 8.

The idea came from the popular TV show “The Apprentice” in which Donald Trump delivered the lemonade stand challenge. And while no one from the Tribe had to go to the boardroom, face Donald Trump and hear the words “you’re fired!” - they were challenged to build successful lemonade stands to raise money for a local Fayetteville, Ark. charity Camp Alliance (www.campalliance.org).

The Lemonade Stand Project was the key focus of this year’s annual Leadership Wyandotte retreat.

Leadership Wyandotte was developed by the Wyandotte Nation and designed to provide a foundation for participants to expand their current leadership roles in the tribe, business and community.

Leadership Wyandotte members develop a broad appreciation of the Nation’s unique quality of life as well as an understanding of the complex opportunities they face as stewards of the tribe, business, and community.

According to Kelly Carpino, CEO for the tribe’s economic development, “Our annual retreat provides us the opportunity to bring together the leaders of all our enterprises to focus on effective leadership skills. Leadership Wyandotte is designed to build the strengths and confidence our leaders need to encourage commitment and translate strategy into effective action.”

Carpino says each annual retreat includes a project designed to cultivate creativity, accountability and high levels of performance. “It also gives us a chance to instill in our leaders the recognition that our people are the most important asset of our organization,” she said.

Five teams were assigned to develop a business plan for a lemonade stand and execute that plan within a set budget.

The teams executed that strategy from a simple stand to a state-of-the-art stand that included a TV and video games. The teams raised $2,500 for Camp Alliance despite adverse weather conditions.

The various lemonade “companies” created by the teams included Raise the Flag Lemonade Company, Squeeze Me Lemonade, The Lemon of Oz, Always a Good Lime, and Wyandotte Lemon Drop.

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Stand — Continued from Page 12

Squeeze Me Lemon-ade, a tribal government team, were the winners of the challenge. Team members included Eric Lofland, Brenda House, Deana Howard, Tammy Charles, Jeff Hitchcock, Kim Garcia, Sherri Clemons and Norman Hildebrand.

7th Street Casino
By Calli Green

From cosmetic improvements, like the stage on the third floor, to celebrity visits, like Jerry Springer’s guest appearance, 7th Street Casino has Kansas City excited! We have good reason to be the talk of the town. The team is thrilled with phenomenal turn outs, and could not be happier about closing the 2013 fiscal year with $2,014 in free play.

“arly to kick off the New Year!

We are the best team to accomplish another upcoming events and we have the
with $2,014 in free play.

and one lucky guest will walk away every 30 minutes until midnight at the Street party. Prizes will be drawn on DJ Joe plays great tunes for the 7th
to win Slot Free Play prizes, while all casino guests will have a chance
ging, from 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., at the 7th Street Casino. To keep the party going, from 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., all casino guests will have a chance to win Slot Free Play prizes, while DJ Joe plays great tunes for the 7th Street party. Prizes will be drawn every 30 minutes until midnight and one lucky guest will walk away with $2,014 in free play.

We are thrilled about the upcoming events and we have the best team to accomplish another successful fiscal year. We are excited to kick off the New Year!

WPP named ‘Manufacturer of the Year’

Wyandotte Precision Products (WPP) was named “Manufacturer of the Year” during Oklahoma Minority Enterprise Development Week. The celebration of success of minority entrepreneurs was coordinated by the REI Native American Business Centers.

“It is an honor for our team at Wyandotte Precision Products to receive the award from the MED organization and REI of Oklahoma,” said WPP President Ron Brown. “We still have a tremendous amount of work to do to meet our goals, but the award is an unexpected and welcome recognition of our efforts so far. As with all of our WTOK businesses, it is a team effort and a team recognition. We could not do what we do without the support of the Wyandotte Nation and all the departments of WTOK.”

The company was formed in June 2011, with the acquisition and workforce transition of an existing machine shop by the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma’s Economic Development department.

WPP is a precision machine shop, located at the Joplin, Mo., airport, that produces maintenance and repair parts for manufacturing companies in the food processing, printing, oil and gas, military, explosives and automotive industries.

Led by Brown, a Wyandotte Tribal member, WPP is currently working on ISO compliance requirements and plans to achieve certification within the next 12 months. All profits from the company are used to provide economic and social programs for the citizens of the Wyandotte Nation.

“This is a great example of a business utilizing all the resources available to help it grow and expand,” said James Ray, MBDA Business Center Project Director. “We are pleased to work with them and proud to recognize them as Minority Manufacturer of the Year.”

REI Native American Business Centers deliver technical assistance and training programs in an effort to build successful Native American and minority-owned businesses.

Visit www.reinabc.org for more information.

To learn more about Wyandotte Precision Products, visit www.wppok.com.

Twin Bridges Restaurant-The Deli
By Casey Ellett

It has been roughly three months since Twin Bridges Restaurant launched their new lunch and dinner menus, and the verdict is...“we hit a home run.”

Chef Charles Bowen and company have brought a much larger variety of items and flavors to the menus along with keeping all the local favorites. Twin Bridges Restaurant has continued to see strong attendance numbers since the introduction of the new menu. The numbers reached record levels Sept. 28 (the evening of The Touchdown Tailgate Giveaway), with over 200 covers in just a five hour time frame.

Twin Bridges Lounge is drawing quite the crowd every game day with an impressive variety of delicious drink specials, perfect for a kick-off treat. The Twin Bridges Lounge team has been pulling some extra hours concocting some fantastic seasonal drinks that we hope to be seeing soon.

Finally, the Wyandotte Nation Casino Deli has been dishing out some creativity of its own. This summer the Deli introduced milkshakes to the daily menu, and the demand has been undeniable. Recently, the introduction of a pumpkin milkshake, which premiered in October, has both guests and team members’ alike lining up for this fall treat.

Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (WTOK) CEO Kelly Carpino, Wyandotte Precision Products President Ron Brown, WPP General Manager Steve Selby.
Human Resources

New Hires

Andrew Kinder recently joined our Law Enforcement Department as Police Officer. Andrew comes to us from Quapaw, Okla., where he served as Police Lieutenant. He has always had a strong desire to work in the law enforcement field and is very excited about his opportunity to work with the Tribe and looks forward to his new career. In his spare time, Andrew enjoys playing horseshoes, pool, and spending time with his family. We wish Andrew the best of luck in his new position. Welcome to the team Andrew!

Paul Parker has joined our Housing Department as Housing Maintenance Project Coordinator. Paul has a passion for the construction field and has over 20 years of experience. Having owned his own construction business, Paul has worked in all areas and is very familiar with the work and strives to exceed his customer’s expectations. In his free time, Parker enjoys spending time with his family, scuba diving, and riding motorcycles. We are very fortunate to have Paul on our team and wish him much success in his new position with the Tribe. Welcome to the Wyandotte Family!

Jana Harp recently joined our Accounting Department as Accounting Clerk. She has worked as a Payroll Clerk for the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma for the last three years. Jana has worked in payroll and accounting for over 10 years and brings a wealth of knowledge to the department. In her spare time, Jana enjoys spending time with her family, doing interior decorating and shopping. We are excited to welcome Jana to the team and wish her much success in her new position for the Tribe.

Kathy Greenhaw, Wyandotte Tribal Member, recently joined the Gaming Department as Background Investigator/Internal Compliance Officer. Kathy has over 16 years of experience working in the background investigation field and brings a wealth of knowledge to the department. She is very excited to work for the Tribe and is looking forward to the new opportunity. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family, watching NASCAR, and is very active in the Job's Daughters International organization. Welcome to the team Kathy!

Gary Bisbee, formerly Internal Compliance Officer for 7th Street Casino, has joined the Gaming Department as Background Investigator/Internal Compliance Officer in our Kansas City location. Gary has been with the organization for over five years and has worked in conjunction with the Gaming Department in his previous position. Both Gary’s casino and compliance experience and knowledge have been a great asset to the Gaming Department. Congratulations on your new position Gary!

Bearskin Fitness Center would like to welcome Marissa Griffin, Tim Harnar, and Jennifer Cole, to their staff.

Marissa, Front Desk Assistant, is a Wyandotte Nation tribal member and has participated in our Summer Youth Program the last several years. She is currently a student at NEO.

Tim, Childcare Provider, is a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe, where he was also employed, and worked with the summer youth. Tim currently attends Pittsburg State University.

Jennifer, Childcare Provider, has worked in the childcare field for several years and is looking forward to her new position. We are very excited to have each of these new team members and wish them much success in their new positions. Welcome to Wyandotte Nation!

The Education Department recently added two part-time Early Childhood Teacher Assistant positions to their staff. Nick Wills and Ashley Taffner, Wyandotte Nation tribal members, have been hired for these positions. Both come to us with several years of experience in childcare and have been a great addition to the department. We are very excited to have them on our team and look forward to a great school year!

Stephanie Eads, Wyandotte Nation tribal member, was recently hired as Food Service Team Member for Title VI. She has worked in the food service industry for several years and is excited to use her experience working for her Tribe. In her spare time, Stephanie enjoys spending time with her family. Be sure to stop by Title VI for lunch and welcome Stephanie to the team!

Jan Graham, Wyandotte Nation tribal member, has transferred to Receptionist for the 3rd Building. Jan has been employed with the Tribe for over five years and has served as payroll clerk, receptionist, and accounting clerk. Jan is very familiar with her new role as she was in this position previously. She is excited about the transfer and looking forward to serving tribal members. Welcome back Jan!

Culture Committee plans events for 2014

The Culture Committee hit the floor running in October planning events for 2014. After witnessing the interest in learning from several students who were able to attend sessions during the 2013 Culture Days, we realize we must make education and activities available throughout the year to allow our youth and entire families to attend.

In 2014 we will not only have our culture days in September but we are also planning a mini culture weekend in June (June 13-15). The activities will be geared toward the entire family, including our elders.

Some of the activities the committee is working on bringing in 2014, beading for regalia, making moccasins, how to make a shawl, learning to dance for both social and Pow-Wow, cooking traditional food - just to name a few. Some activities may in time be made available on a quarterly, monthly or possible weekly class basis.

Currently we are aware of several who have indicated interest in becoming dancers. Leads are already being investigated to bring in someone to teach dance on a regular basis.

Please mark your calendars now for these important events in 2014:

- Mini Culture weekend June 13, 14 & 15
- Culture Days second full week of Sept.
- Annual Meeting Saturday Sept. 13
- Pow Wow Sept. 12, 13 & 14

Watch for more details as they become available on the Nation’s website or on Facebook. If you have suggestions for activities, teachers for mini weekend session, would like to volunteer to help during culture days, or comments please email the Culture committee at culture@wyandotte-nation.org.
Health Fest 2013

Free flu shots were given at Health Fest 2013 at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center Saturday, Oct. 12. (William Swaim/Wyandotte Nation)

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center has been an active place over the last few weeks. From hosting the Wyandotte Culture Days, Annual Meeting, Health Fest and 5K, youth programing, consulting patients and attending trainings, the staff has been great at juggling multiple tasks with confidence and composure.

As always, Culture Days and the Annual Meeting brought old faces and new ones alike here to visit. It is always a pleasure to serve tribal members and the community in this beautiful facility. Culture Days was successful in setting a record attendance and Annual Meeting, as well.

Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center hosted the 12th Annual Bearskin Health Fest Oct. 12 from 8 a.m. to noon. With over 200 registered, individuals were able to enjoy hayrides, crafts, inflatable games, snacks, and pumpkin painting, receive health screenings results for total cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and body composition. In addition, free flu shots were given out to the first 100 and community members had access to speak with vendors including: Brown-Winters Funeral Home, Compassionate Care, Craig General Home Health, Darma’s Bistro, The Gabriel Project, Good Shepherd Hospice, Hearing Life, Integris Health, Integris Generations, Legacy Hospice, Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma, Grand Gateway, Wyandotte Nation Police Department, Wyandotte Nation Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative, Osborn Drugs, Ottawa County Health Department, Plexus World Wide and Scentsy.

The evening of Health Fest, the Wyandotte Nation and Eastern Shawnee Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiatives, Wyandotte Nation Police Department and Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center hosted the Joker 5K Run and Fun Walk, followed by a Zumbathon. The theme was “We don’t joke around with Meth!”

Joker is the name of the drug dog the Wyandotte Nation Police Department uses. Joker and his handler, Jared Robinson, were on hand to meet and greet the approximately 256 participants. This was a record turnout for any 5K the community has hosted. In addition, participants received T-shirts, and information related to methamphetamine prevention and facts concerning methamphetamine.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) Division of Behavioral Health has implemented the Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI) to provide funding to over 125 demonstration pilot sites. Both Wyandotte Nation and Eastern Shawnee Tribes were recipients of this funding. The MSPI supports the development and implementation of model practices for methamphetamine and suicide prevention and marks an important step in methamphetamine and suicide prevention efforts in Indian Country.

The Affordable Care Act has been a hot topic for questions in the clinic. The known facts are as follows:


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“The Affordable Care Act specifies that, beginning in 2014, individuals will need to maintain “minimum essential coverage” – whether through the Health Insurance Marketplace or through another source, make a payment on their tax return (called the “shared responsibility payment”), or obtain an exemption from the shared responsibility payment.

However, American Indians/Alaska Natives and other individuals who are eligible to receive services from an Indian Healthcare Provider may apply for an exemption from the shared responsibility payment if they do not have minimum essential coverage. In order to receive this exemption, members of federally recognized tribes may apply through the Marketplace or handle this through their tax return.

Individuals who are not members of federally recognized tribes, but who are eligible to receive services from an Indian health care provider, must apply through the Marketplace and provide verification of eligibility to receive services from an Indian health care provider.”

*Source: Department of Health and Human Services*

Native Americans qualify for an exemption:

- Being an enrolled member of a Federally Recognized Tribe
- Being eligible for care by an Indian Health Care Provider
- Non-Native Female Pregnant with a Native’s Child until 6 weeks post birth
- Exemptions must be filed for on the marketplace website or through tax return
- **Exemptions for Native Americans can be provided retroactively**

Events to look forward to at Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center:

- Flu shots – Beginning in November, patients may make appointments
- Yoga – Beginning in January
- Bearskin Strongman Competition – April 19, 2014
- Pool Party/Bounce House Rental Packages beginning in January

Environmental Department

Fall has definitely arrived with the cooler temps and the noticeable changing of the leaves. This also means a number of Health Fairs.

Our department had a booth at the Wyandotte Lions Club Health Fair and the NE Tribal Health Fair during the first week of October.

We also had a booth at the Bearskin Health & Wellness Center Health Fair Saturday, Oct. 12, and at the Twin Bridges Fall Festival Sunday, Oct. 20.

On Oct. 17, we were guest speakers at a NE Oklahoma Seniors Companions Meeting in Vinita, Okla. We spoke on clean water and recycling issues.

Don’t forget our Lost Creek Recycling Center located behind the Bearskin Fitness Center. We are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We also have bins set up outside at the south end of the center so that recyclables can be dropped off after work hours and on weekends.

**Services provided:**

- Private Well Drinking Water Sampling for tribal and non-tribal citizens that live within a 50-mile radius of Wyandotte Nation Tribal Offices. This consists of sampling for bacteria and heavy metals.
- Septic System Assessments for tribal and non-tribal members living within the Grand Lake Watershed.

Please note we have a new phone system in place and our numbers have changed. We now have direct lines to our offices. Please see the contact information below.

Department Contacts

- Christen Lee – 918-678-6341
- Janice Wilson – 918-678-6345
- Kathleen Welch – 918-678-6335
- Jon Quick – 918-678-6352
- Lost Creek Recycle Center – 918-678-4001

Housing Department

The new community center is in the process of being built, with the completion scheduled by the end of January.

A storm shelter for the residents is included and will be a welcome relief this spring when the storms hit.

The community center will also include a generator, and will serve as an emergency shelter during power outages.

The Housing offices will also be located in the new center. If you would like more information regarding housing programs, 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 the need of water or sanitation services, please contact our office for an application.

This program is not based on income.

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

Title VI

Elder Services

It was so good to see everyone again at the Cultural Events, Pow-Wow and Annual Meeting. It is great to have more and more Wyandottes participating every year and learning about their heritage.

Recently, we partnered with the Quapaw, Eastern Shawnee, and Ottawa Tribes, and Good Shepherd Hospice to hold our third Annual Picnic In the Park. We danced as the awesome Duke Mason sang his wonderful Elvis songs. We enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, coleslaw and apple cobbler.

We would like to thank the Wyandotte Nation Casino and the Turtle Stop for their contributions to our door prizes. There were $317 in attendance.

The first week of October we held our Annual Medicare Part D/ Diabetes Health Screenings in Grove, Wyandotte and Miami. We had a really nice turnout for all three events.

The Wyandotte football team helped with the one in Grove. They served lunch to the elders, gave out door prizes and even danced to the YMCA and the Train.

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be Thursday, Nov. 14. We will have turkey and dressing and all the trimmings.

Our Annual Christmas Dinner will be held Dec. 12. We will have brisket, all the trimmings and homemade candy.

Our music parties are still the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Come out and play with us!

Preparring your house for winter

Fall is here and winter will be approaching soon. Here are a few tips to prepare your house for winter.

These small things can add up to big savings and warmer homes.

1) Examine all windows from the outside. Make sure storm windows are intact. Check all the caulking and seals around the glass to make sure there are no gaps.

2) Close any foundation vents that allow air to get under the house.

3) Check the vent pipes for your furnace, water heater or other vents. Make sure they are in good shape and show no signs of leaking or pulling loose from the roof.

4) Check to see how tight your entry doors close. Add weather stripping if needed.
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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 will have a Caregiver Christmas Banquet at the First Christian Church in Miami, Okla., Dec. 6. We will have speakers, entertainment, vendor booths, goodie bags and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. We will also have respite for caregivers that will be bringing their caregiver recipients.

As always it is a pleasure serving the Wyandotte Nation Tribal Citizens. Please feel free to call or come by and visit us anytime.

Brenda House, Elder Services Director, (918) 678-6327
Kandi Smith, Food Service Team Supervisor, (918) 678-6328
Seth Higginbotham, Berle Blevins, Stephanie Eads, Food Service Team Members (918) 678-6328
Mena, (918) 678-6326

Education Department

Preschool

The Preschool year began in August and we have 76 children attending our four different classes. The arrival of fall means trips to pumpkin patches and corn mazes. We are preparing for Halloween parties and programs that will be followed by our Thanksgiving Dinner. The last event before our Christmas break will be the program and party for classrooms scheduled for Dec. 20.

We have four openings in our preschool program and if you are or know of someone that might be interested, please feel free to contact our office.

Afterschool Program

The before and after school children program changed in structure when we began in August. To develop good study habits, the children that spend additional time helping others or work on homework are earning reward dollars to use for special events or items in the Turtle Store. Mikki and Amy are working very hard with the afterschool program and it is “paying” off for the participants.

Library

Automation is complete with the exception of adding new materials and continuing to gather the correct information to issue patron cards.

We continue to add new releases twice a month in the video and book categories.

Planning/Development

ICDBG Projects

The Community Center located in the Housing area is on schedule. Completion is scheduled for the end of December.

We will be advertising for architects, for the Culture Center soon. The Culture Center will be located SW of the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center on the South side of Turtle Drive.

Child Care & Development Fund Program

The biennial plan for the child care providers is scheduled for Nov. 2. Barbara Coloroso will be the key note speaker and she will speak about current trends in care and parenting.

Wyandotte Nation children who reside outside of our service area are eligible for child care assistance from other federal grantees. If you or any of your families need our help locating a program in your area, please contact our offices.

Construction is progressing on the Community Center.

William Swaim/Wyandotte Nation

Tribal Scholarships

Oct. 1 was the deadline for submitting information for fall 2013 funding. I am very pleased with the number of new applicants and I look forward to developing a relationship with you during the time you are on scholarship program and please do not hesitate to call if I can assist you.

The vocational and master’s programs receives applications throughout the year as those programs have varying start dates. For scholarship renewal from semester to semester, you must provide current semester grades in an approved format from the higher education institution and supply a copy of the next semester schedule. For spring term those documents must be received by Feb. 15 and for fall semester Oct. 1. All Wyandotte Nation scholarship funds are made payable to the institution.

The state of Oklahoma has implemented a new program for individuals that have completed some college hours and are interested in completing an associate’s or bachelor’s degree. It is called “Reach Higher” and information is available at www.okhighered.org/reachhigher/.

Regardless of where you reside, you should look at that state education agency website for information to assist you as you look at college degree and funding options.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

The Workforce Investment Act has four new clients that are close to completing a degree or certificate.

If you are interested in any of the programs that are housed in the Education Department, please call our offices or send an email and we will do our very best to help you with answers and services.

As you try to contact our offices for assistance, we want to distribute our new telephone numbers: Tammy Charles 918-678-6330; Loretta Combes 918-678-6334; Annita Jolene Tucker 918-678-6331.

- Submitted by Tammy Charles, Education Director
Family Services

If you missed the annual meeting at the tribal headquarters on Sept. 14, below is a list of family services programs for the fiscal year 10/1/2013 to 9/30/2014.

There were over 300 citizens attending the annual meeting and a host of family and friends. There were over 100 contest dancers at the pow-wow.

It was a wonderful weekend and so great to see many of our families in attendance.

New Staff Member Announcement

The Family Services Department welcomes Leeanna Radabaugh. Leeanna has been employed with the Wyandotte Nation since November 2010. Before joining the family services team, Leeanna was the receptionist/librarian in the Education/Environmental and Family Services building. Leeanna will be working in tribal enrollment, tags and family services.

This year was a record year for the enrollment of Wyandotte Citizens. There were over 400 new members voted in at the annual meeting.

Dana and Leeanna will be working hard to get all new members their Wyandotte Nation Tribal Membership cards. As a member of the Wyandotte Nation, Leeanna is looking forward to working with our tribal families and we are very excited to have Leeanna on our team.

Tribal Programs for Family Services Department

EXPANSION OF PROGRAM LISTING THE 4 STATE AREA
1. Tribal License Plates  (All of Oklahoma)
2. Tribal Enrollment (Nationwide)
3. New Enrollee Program  (Nationwide) $100 gift card and baby blanket
4. Burial Assistance (Nationwide) $1,500
5. LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) Oklahoma residents only
6. Senior Citizen Summer $100 and Winter Energy Assistance ($100) (4 States)
7. Elders Assistance (4-States): $250 per calendar year
8. Hardship or Medical Fuel Assistance (4 States)
9. Children’s Winter Clothing (4-States): $100 per student
10. School Supply Program (4-States) $100 per student
11. Extracurricular School Expense Reimbursement Program: (4 States) $100 per student
12. Junior/Senior High School Expense Reimbursement Program: (4-States) $250 per student
14. Promoting Safe and Stable Families (Federal and State Program Funding)
15. Indian Child Welfare: Protection/Placement of Indian Children in State Court Proceedings
16. Infant Child Passenger Safety Seats (Available at Tribal Headquarters only)

Explanation of Family Services Programs

1. Tribal License Plates: Available in all counties in Oklahoma. The tribal tag program offers private passenger, recreational vehicle, motor home, motorcycle and handicap license plates.
2. Tribal Enrollment: (Nationwide Program) The Wyandotte Nation Constitution, ratified Sept. 29, 1999, outlined criteria for membership in the Nation: Article 5: Section 1. Membership: The following persons shall be eligible for membership in the Wyandotte Nation provided: That such persons are US. Citizens and not enrolled members of any other federally recognized tribe, nation, band group or community: (A), all persons whose names appear on the official census roll of the Nation as of Jan. 1, 1937; (B) All issue by blood of a Wyandotte Nation tribal members listed in Section 1 (A), of this Article: and (C) the degree of blood quantum of an individual proven to possess Wyandotte blood will not be a factor in determining Wyandotte membership: Section 2: Membership by Council Vote: a person of Wyandotte Nation ancestry who does not meet the requirements of Section 1 of this Article may be accepted for membership a majority vote of the Nation Council.
3. New Enrollee Program: (Nationwide Program) The Wyandotte Nation would like to encourage all parents to enroll their children as soon as birth certificates become available. As an incentive for doing so, the Tribe is providing a $100 Gift card and a commemorative baby blanket with the Tribal logo if the enrollment office receives the membership application and birth certificate before the child reaches his/her first birthday.
4. Burial Assistance (Nationwide Program) This program was initiated Oct. 1, 2008 and will pay $1,500 for burial assistance. The burial application must be accompanied by a copy of the death certificate and an itemized funeral bill. Payment will be made directly to the service provider unless there is verification family members have paid the funeral bill.
5. LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program): (4-State Area) Currently funded program is subject to availability of grant dollars. If the Nation receives continued funding for this program. This program will begin Dec. 1, 2013 through March 1, 2014. Winter clothing vouchers are offered and/or the family may apply for direct reimbursement with receipt verification.
6. Senior Citizen Energy Assistance Program: (4 State Area): Effective Aug. 1, 2013 eligible enrolled Wyandotte children receive a $100 Walmart gift card toward back to school expenses. A cost reimbursement program is also available for families who directly purchase supplies at the stores of their choice and present receipts for reimbursement. This program is also available for seniors. The program will end Sept. 30, 2013. For 2014, program begins Aug. 1 - Sept. 30, 2014.
7. Elders Assistance: Oct. 1, 2013 – Sept. 30, 2014. (For Senior Citizens 62+ residing in the 4 State Area): This program provides $250 per calendar year to seniors for expenses such as rent, household expenses, vehicle repairs, or personal needs. Payment will be made directly to a vendor, or with proof of receipt of payment, the tribal member may apply for reimbursement.
8. Hardship or Medical Fuel Vouchers: Turtle Stop fuel vouchers may be obtained from the Family Services Department if a family is experiencing a hardship. Tribal members who need help purchasing fuel to reach their medical appointments may also apply for this assistance.
9. Children’s Winter Clothing: (4-State Area: Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas). This program will begin Dec. 1, 2013 through March 1, 2014. Winter clothing vouchers are offered and/or the family may apply for direct reimbursement with receipt verification.
10. School Supply Program: (4-State Area). Effective Aug. 1, 2013 eligible enrolled Wyandotte children receive a $100 Walmart gift card toward back to school expenses. A cost reimbursement program is also available for families who directly purchase supplies at the stores of their choice and present receipts for reimbursement. This program is also available for seniors. The program will end Sept. 30, 2013. For 2014, program begins Aug. 1 - Sept. 30, 2014.
11. Extracurricular Activities: Oct. 1, 2013 - end of school year: (4-State Area). $100 benefit per school age children. Student expenses such as class pictures, school lunches, addi- tional school supplies, instrument rental, sports, or various related activities may be paid directly to a vendor, or families may present paid receipts for reimbursement.
12. Junior/Senior High School Expense Reimbursement Program: (4-State Area): Effective Aug. 1, 2013 through end of school year. This program will allow $250 per school year for High School juniors and seniors. The program will assist with costs such as yearbooks, class pictures, graduation gowns, announcements, letter jackets, class rings, college testing or other related costs. This also is a reimbursement program with receipts and/or a vendor may be paid directly.

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13. Children’s Christmas Party: Each December, the Wyandotte Nation hosts a Christmas party for tribal members aged birth to 12 years. There are children’s gifts of all ages, snacks for everyone and a gift card for the parents attending. Santa always comes, so bring your family to celebrate the holiday with us. The party this year is Saturday, Dec. 14 (see Holiday schedule).

14. Promoting Safe & Stable Families: This state and federally funded program provides family preservation and support services designed to prevent the breakup of our Indian families. This program may be able to assist at-risk families with need based social services, referrals, emergency assistance and appropriate tribal programs. The goal is to ensure the health, well-being and safety of your family.

15. Indian Child Welfare: The 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act mandates the State Court systems across the nation notify the Tribe when a referral is made regarding a Wyandotte child, or if a Wyandotte child has been removed from their home. Please contact Family Services as the Tribe works with all states to provide appropriate services to assist in the reunification process.

16. Child Passenger Safety Seats: Newborn through booster sizes are available to enrolled Wyandotte children. Expectant parents may receive the newborn size after the 7th month of pregnancy. Child safety seats must be picked up from Tribal Headquarters.

In closing, please make a note that our telephone extensions have been changed.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Family Services staff by phone or email. Kate Randall, (918) 678-6324, krandall@wyandotte-nation.org; Tara Gragg, (918) 678-6355, tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org; Dana Butterfield, (918) 678-6319 dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org; and Leeanna Radabaugh, (918) 678-6329 lradabaugh@wyandotte-nation.org.

Below is a list of the 2013 Wyandotte Nation new tribal citizens:

- Adams, Mearah Makinsey
- Adams, Russel Richard
- Adams, Samuel Richard
- Adams, Senah Mae
- Agee, Brandon Nathaniel
- Allen, Ashlyn Michelle Nichole
- Allred, Charlotte Kaydee
- Badley-Gonzales, Nicholas Isaac
- Bailey, Ava Morgan
- Bailey, Grace Parker
- Baker, Dalyn Ty Alexander
- Baker, Evielu Riley
- Baldridge, Adalyn Taylor
- Ballard, Aidan David
- Ballard, Chlo Rae
- Ballard, Gabriel Rhyse-Winder
- Ballard, Kayler Noel
- Ballard, Liberty Grace
- Ballard, Lily Joy
- Barfell, Rayleigh Dawn
- Barfell, Sophia Grace
- Barnes Jr., Jermaine Eugene
- Barnhart, Layla Celeste
- Barnhart, Levi Michael
- Barnhart, Mallory LeeAnn
- Bateman, Jacob Wallace
- Bell, Kinzie Marie
- Belson, Chance James
- Belson, Chase McKinley
- Belson, Colton Samuel
- Beltran, Felipo Quinten
- Bergamini, Rayna Simone
- Bemoski, Tavis Mark
- Bemoski, Violet Claudine
- Berry, Debra Marie
- Bertram, Tyler Aidan
- Bettes, Lilly Jade
- Big Eagle, Travis Morgan Valierre
- Blue jacket, Hadleigh Grace
- Bond, Jace Liam
- Bott, Daruis Colin
- Boyd, Emerald Belle
- Braquet, Dawn Elizabeth
- Breaux, Evangeline Morgan
- Brechisen, Randon Charles
- Brinkman, Cara Rose
- Brinkman, Faith Debra
- Brown, Patryan Grace
- Broyles, Samantha Lynnette
- Broyles, Sophia Paige
- Brunham, Olivia Renee
- Bryce, Caleb Isaac
- Bunch, Brayden Martin
- Butler, Olivia Rae
- Cabay, Carter Alexander
- Cabay, Logan Michael
- Cameron, Landin Alexander Jaxon
- Carnes, Xavair Zacharia
- Carrion Jr., Joseph Robert
- Carroll, Dylan E. Lewis
- Cary, Dakota Irene
- Cary, Stephen Dylan
- Cash, Barrett Michael
- Chavez, Brock Anthony
- Chavez, Ryder Hawk
- Christensen, Jaxsen Jeremy
- Christensen, Kyndal Nicole
- Chronister, Myla Rae
- Clapp, Brittani Nikkole
- Clapp, Caden Wayne
- Clausen, Ava Grace
- Clausen, Parker Gregory
- Cochran, Chandler Nicole
- Coleman, Cali Cathleen
- Coleman, Cara Cheyenne
- Coleman, Colin Chase
- Collinsworth, Dalton Tyler
- Conner, Ellie Nichole
- Cooper II, George Michael
- Cox, Blaze Abbott
- Coy, Blane Adams
- Craver, Emerie LeAnn
- Crotzer, Joel Craig
- Crotzer, Levi Jaylen
- Crotzer, Lyrik Ray Craig
- Crotzer, Melody Ann
- Croy, Margaret Lucille
- Daily, Christopher Brock
- Daly, Ruby Shime
- Davis, Hunter Ryan
- De Greff, Alissia Josephine
- Delgado, Ayla Renae
- Duffy, Gavin Dante
- Dunston, Darwin Lyle
- Dunston, Solace Jane
- Edwards, Austin Alan
- Eileen, Christi Jean
- Eileen, Justin Frederick
- Eileen, Nicholas Taylor
- Eileen, Ryan Christopher
- English, Alayna Michelle
- Espinosa, Eva Isabella
- Fansler, Eileen Marie
- Fansler, Paige Elizabeth
- Fansler, Tara Lee
- Farley, Hudson William
- Floyd, Cody John
- Floyd, Colby Matthew
- Ford, Connor Pamela
- Ford, Sabrina Raye
- Frame, Noell Elizabeth
- Francis, Jaymii Lane
- Francis, Nathan Tyler
- Franklin, Cooper James
- Franks Filley, Jacob Daniel
- Frazier, Aidan Scott
- Frazier, Scott William
- Frey, Olivia Isabel
- Friberg, Preston Daniel
- Fritts, Amelia Grace
- Fritts, Amelia Lakey
- Frye, Bronson Christopher
- Frye, Hannah Jayne
- Frye, Jonathan Cole
- Fujikawa, Cameron James
- Fujikawa, Kyler Ray
- Gallup, Abigail Rose
- Gallup, Calvin James
- Garofola, Sophia Katherine
- Garrity, Brysyn Sean Monroe
- Garrity, Jayce Christian Gage
- Garrity, Kyler Shea James
- Garvey, Joshua Malone
- Gentry, Payton Grace
- Gerhard, Chloe Anne
- Gerhard, Dawson Matthew
- Giardini, Daniel Joseph
- Gill, Jeremiah Lee
- Gill, Jess Allen
- Gill, Keeley Jade
- Goodrich, Kane William
- Goodrich, Morgan Elizabeth
- Goodrich, Samuel Johnathan
- Goodrich, Sarah Rebekah
- Goodrich, Steven Peter
- Grant, Malia Elizabeth
- Green, Amelia Grace
- Green, Matthew Christopher
- Green, Natalie Rose
- Gransden, Ariata K. Chloe Destine
- Griffo, Henry Michael
- Gugino, Jordyn Ashley
- Gulley, Roberta Dawn
- Gunter, Elizabeth Nicole
- Gunter, Tiffany Marie
- Hagert, Michael Alan
- Hamilton, Lucas Joseph
- Hammontree, Lily Rose
- Hansen, Riley James
- Hansen, Terra Elizabeth
- Hanson, Libbye Angeline
- Hardin, Kristine Michelle
- Harwood, Bailey Lorene
- Hatfield, Carolann Beverly
- Hatfield, Dawn Nicole
- Haverty, Denise Martine
- Heikkila, Isaac Shane
- Hellener, Jennifer Jean
- Herbert, Ashlyn Noel
- Hernandez, Callynn Jo
- Hill II, Robert Arthur
- Hilyard, Selah Noelle
- House, Hannah Leigh
- Huerta, Jayden Neriah
- Huggins Jr., James Thomas
- Huggins, Logan Shane
- Huggins, Michael Dillon
- Hughes, John Joseph William
- Hughes, Joseph Charles
- Isaac, Chloe Isabella
- Isaac, Presley London
- Jackson, Harley Denise
- Jensen, Adalyn Elaine
- Jewsbury, Tyson Nolan
- Johnson, Airiana Karin
- Johnson, Faith Ann-Marie
- Johnston, Theodore Daniel
- Jones, Courtney LeeAnn
- Kelley, Jaylynn Roxanna
- Lamer, Landon Dean
- Larsen, Brandie Marie
- Lawrence, Charlotte Grace
- Lawrence, Kassidy Sue
- Lawrence, Kateylin Jae
- Lawrence, Summer Victoria
- Lees, Lana Marie
- Lichlyter, Lincoln Murray
- Lindsey, Kelly Leslie

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