



The Turtle Speaks

Gyah'-Wish Atak-ia

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Editor/Design: William Swaim



Cover Photo:
 WNTPD participates in 'Shop with a Cop' program. Photo: William Swaim

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.

Looking for Elders, Veterans for Feature Stories

We are looking for tribal citizens to feature in upcoming issues, whether you live in the Oklahoma area or some far off distant land, we want to hear your story; elders and veterans especially.

Have News? Share it

We want to hear from you! Send us news or stories you may have or suggest features for us to work on.

Email: wswaim@wtok.org



From the Chief

Billy Friend

Activities to enjoy in 2018

Kweh and Happy New Year to everyone!

Here are a few suggestions for activities that will bring you closer to the Wyandotte Nation and the Wyandotte people in this new year of 2018.

Come out to the Pow-Wow grounds April 12 and enjoy the Turtle Tot's annual Pow-Wow and see 80-100 of the best little dancers in the country as they dance traditional Wyandotte dances around the drum.

You may also want to attend the annual Wyandotte preschool's Turtle Tot Graduation May 7. You will be amazed at all the beautiful children in their caps and gowns marching down the aisle to "Pomp and Circumstance" and singing and performing for all those in attendance, but you will want to arrive early because the gym will fill quickly for this grand performance.

And while on the subject of little Turtles, don't forget about our annual "The Gathering of Little Turtles" that will take place June 22-24 at the Cultural Center and Bearskin Fitness Center. The camp is free for kids and there will be more information coming out soon.

Also, do not forget our annual 4Th of July Celebration and Fireworks at the tribal Pow-Wow grounds. Our freedom celebration has grown to one of the largest

event in the area highlighted by live music, food vendors, children's activities and the grand finale fireworks display has become one of the best in the 4 states. We will be announcing the date for this event very soon, so be watching our website, Facebook page and your next edition of the Turtle Talk.

Enjoy a nice lunch at the Artie Nesvold Title VI senior nutrition center here at the Wyandotte Nation. Lunch begins at 11:30 each you will not only enjoy a great meal, you will meet many wonderful Wyandotte elders. You could very well discover a relative you didn't previously know!

Drop in at the Wyandotte Nation tribal library and look through our large collection of books and videos or access our computer lab for internet services.

Investigate the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center where you will discover so many and varied pieces of Wyandotte history, you will be amazed! The center is a great place to discover Wyandotte history and to do genealogical research to trace your family roots. You will gain real insight into the Wyandotte people. Also, while there be sure to browse the gift shop for those items you just can't live without.

For Wyandotte students in high school and college be sure to check out the information in this issue of the Turtle Talk concerning our

summer intern program. This program not only provides an employment opportunity, but also the chance to learn more about your Tribe and to meet other Wyandotte youth.

Finally, don't forget the Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting, Cultural Gathering and Pow-Wow. This is, of course, our annual event that welcomes all Wyandottes home to the Wyandotte Nation. You are sure to enjoy the many activities, as well as the many, many Wyandottes and others who come to celebrate. So many Wyandottes come to this gathering and there is something new to discover every year. If you haven't yet attended, it's time for you to catch up!

Of course, our many tribal facilities throughout the Wyandotte Nation look forward to welcoming you. Our tribal employees would love to show you the great things going on in the Wyandotte Nation.

We have now embarked on a new year and we all look forward to much more progress this year. Whatever new projects we undertake, we want you to be included. We have scores of programs, services, gatherings, classes, conferences and so on - and our number one priority continues to be the Wyandotte people.

Please get involved with your Tribe this year. You'll be glad you did!

From the Second Chief | Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

A bit of history: Forgotten Disaster of the Indian Wars



Kweh, Hello everyone I hope you survived the holidays and all those shoppers trying to get those last minute bargains. Here we are starting a new year and probably the coldest winter we have had in

a long time. All those predictors like the persimmon pits, woolly worms and even the Farmer's Almanac have a hard time getting it even close to being right.

In October I attended the 74th Annual Convention of the

National Congress of American Indians in Milwaukee. I have been the Alternate Vice-President for the Eastern Oklahoma Area for the last two years and I was

See **Second Chief**, Page 3

Second Chief

Continued from Page 2

re-elected to another two-year term during the convention. NCAI is the largest Native American organization in the country, they have an embassy in Washington D.C. Every legislation that might affect Indian Country they will advocate for or against it. During the previous administration NCAI sponsored a Tribal Nations Conference in Washington, D.C. usually in the first part of December. NCAI wanted to keep sponsoring the conference with the newly elected administration but they never heard back from them, it was a good conference with many Cabinet Secretaries hosting break-out sessions with Tribal Leaders and of course the President of the United States would address the leaders in attendance.

I attended a Tribal Conference in Columbus, Ohio at the end of October. Since they removed all the tribes from Ohio, they have to consult with the tribes that lived in that area due to section 106 regulations involving construction projects throughout the state. During this consultation they informed us about a NEH Public Humanities Project grant to develop a traveling exhibit on the Battle of the Wabash and the Battle of Fort Recovery. These two battles led to the Battle of Fallen Timbers which resulted in the Treaty of Greenville. This grant provides for multiple Humanities Scholars to provide input regarding the content, layout, design, and script of the traveling exhibit, so I was asked to be listed as one of the Humanities Scholars in the grant. I kindly accepted and sent them the information they requested about myself to be included in the grant. The exhibit will be featured at the Ohio History Connection and then travel to various tribal museums.

Here is the story of the Forgotten Disaster of the Indian wars:

When Americans read or hear about the Indian Wars, they are exposed to the familiar names like Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, and George Armstrong Custer and his demise at the battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876. Little is known of the worst disaster experienced by the U.S. Army at the hands of Native Americans, which occurred 85 years prior to Custer's last

“Learn from the past, set vivid, detailed goals for the future, and live in the only moment of time over which you have any control: now.” --Denis Waitly

stand. It was a defeat that greatly overshadowed Little Big Horn not only in terms of casualties and brutality, but also in the consequences that resulted from the debacle. The Battle of the Wabash, also known as St. Clair's Defeat, named after the expedition's leader, Major General Arthur St. Clair, occurred Nov. 4, 1791, and was one of the fledgling U.S. Army of the Early Republic.

Only two years after the ratification of the Constitution, the United States faced a challenge to its authority by the tribes of the Old Northwest Territory, an area which included present-day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and parts of Minnesota. Indian tribes were attacking American settlers at the encouragement of British agents from Canada and British troops still occupying various installations – a direct violation of the peace treaty that ended the Revolutionary War.

Prior to the Battle of the Wabash, President George Washington had dispatched another expedition led by Brigadier General Josiah Harmar to quell the Miami raids, which were led by the Miami chief, Little Turtle. Faced with supply shortages and poor military planning, Harmar was soundly defeated by the Miamis and forced to withdraw. Following the failure of Harmar's expedition, another force was organized to march into the Northwest Territory to deal with the now confident Miamis and Little Turtle. This new expedition was to be led by Major Gen. Arthur St. Clair, the governor of the Northwest Territory and a Continental Army veteran. The force included the First American Regiment, a second regiment of infantry, 800 six-month volunteers organized into two regiments of levies, Kentucky militia, and a few cavalry, which brought the strength of the army to 1,400 men.

St. Clair, who was plagued by illness and, some believe, unfit to command the expedition, set out with his force from Fort Washington, near present-day Cincinnati, in September 1791. He ordered his army to build a series of forts

along the route of advance through hostile country, which slowed the army's progress. By November, St. Clair's force was only 90 miles from where it started. By the end of Nov. 2, through desertion and illness, St. Clair's force had been whittled down to around 1,120, including the camp followers. He had 52 officers and 868 enlisted and militia present for duty Nov. 3. The force camped on an elevated meadow, but did not construct any defensive works, even though Indians had been seen in the forest. While St. Clair's Army continued to lose soldiers, the Western Confederacy quickly added numbers. Buckongahelas led his 480 men to join the 700 warriors of Little Turtle and Blue Jacket, bringing the war party to more than one thousand warriors, including a large number of Potawatomis from eastern Michigan and the Saint Joseph.

On the evening of Nov. 3, St. Clair's force established a camp on a hill near the present-day location of Fort Recovery, Ohio, near the headwaters of the Wabash River. An Indian force consisting of around 1,000 warriors, led by Little Turtle and Blue Jacket, waited in the woods until dawn, when the men stacked their weapons and paraded to their morning meals. Adjutant Gen. Winthrop Sargent had just reprimanded the militia for failing to conduct reconnaissance patrols when the natives then struck, surprising the Americans and overrunning their ground. Little Turtle directed the first attack at the militia, who fled across a stream without their weapons. The regulars immediately broke their musket stacks, formed battle lines and fired a volley into the Indians, forcing them back. Little Turtle responded by flanking the regulars and closing in on them. Meanwhile, St. Clair's artillery was stationed on a nearby bluff and was wheeling into position when the gun crews were killed by Indian marksmen, and the survivors were forced to spike their guns.

Col. William Darke ordered his battalion to fix bayonets and

charge the main Indian position. Little Turtle's forces gave way and retreated to the woods, only to encircle Darke's battalion and destroy it. The bayonet charge was tried numerous times with similar results and the U.S. forces eventually collapsed in disorder. St. Clair had three horses shot out from under him as he tried in vain to rally his men. After three hours of fighting, St. Clair called together the remaining officers and, faced with total annihilation, decided to attempt one last bayonet charge to get through the Indian line and escape. Supplies and wounded were left in camp. As before, Little Turtle's Army allowed the bayonets to pass through, but this time the men ran for Fort Jefferson. They were pursued by Indians for about three miles before the latter broke off pursuit and returned to loot the camp. Exact numbers of wounded are not known, but it has been reported that execution fires burned for several days afterward.

The casualty rate was the highest percentage ever suffered by a United States Army unit and included St. Clair's second in command. Of the 52 officers engaged, 39 were killed and 7 wounded; around 88% of all officers became casualties. After two hours St. Clair ordered a retreat, which quickly turned into a rout. "It was, in fact, a fight," St. Clair described a few days later in a letter to the Secretary of war.

The American casualty rate, among the soldiers, was 97.4 percent, including 632 of the 920 killed (69%) and 264 wounded. Nearly all of the 200 camp followers were slaughtered, for a total of 832 Americans killed. Approximately one-quarter of the entire U.S. Army had been wiped out. Only 24 of the 920 officers and men engaged came out of it unscathed. Indian casualties were about 61, with at least 21 killed. The number of U.S. soldiers killed during this engagement was more than three times the number the Sioux would kill 85 years later at the Battle of Little Big Horn. The next day the remnants of the force arrived at the nearest U.S. outpost, Fort Jefferson, and from there returned to Fort Washington.

I am proud to serve the greatest Indian Nation in the United States -- the Wyandotte Nation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2018

PRESCHOOL & ELDER'S VALENTINES PARTIES

**FEB.
14**



LEAFORD BEARSKIN MEMORIAL POW-WOW

**APRIL
12**



THE GATHERING

**SEPT.
5-7**



TOWN HALL MEETINGS: COLORADO & ARIZONA



**ARIZONA
MARCH 10**

**COLORADO
APRIL 28**

PRESCHOOL GRADUATION

**MAY
7**



29TH ANNUAL POW-WOW

**SEPT.
7-9**



GATHERING OF LITTLE TURTLES

**JUNE
22-24**



ANNUAL MEETING

**SEPT.
8**



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS WITH DATES TO BE DETERMINED: FIREWORKS DISPLAY, LACROSSE CAMP
ALL EVENTS IN WYANDOTTE, OKLA. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Town Hall Meetings set for March, April

In 2018 the Wyandotte Nation will hold Town Hall meetings in Colorado and Arizona.

The first Town Hall will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix Tempe, 2100 South Priest Dr., Tempe, Ariz., Saturday, March 10. Post cards will be mailed to those who live in this area.

The second meeting will be held in Aurora, Colo., April 28 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Denver Stapleton, 4444 N. Havana St. (denverstapleton.embassysuites.com, (720) 587-5089). Watch the website and Facebook for more news about this meeting. Post cards will also be mailed to those who live in this area.

In 2013, the Wyandotte Nation started a new tradition of hosting off-site Town Hall meetings to be able to make connections with tribal citizens/members who live away from the Tribal headquarters in Wyandotte, Okla.

At these meetings citizens were able to meet the Chief, Second Chief and key Wyandotte Nation staff, hear the state of the Tribe, and make connections with family members and other citizens who reside in their local areas.

We are expecting good turnouts for both meetings so we will be asking that everyone who plans to attend a meeting to register in advance so we will be prepared.

The postcards will give instructions on the registration process. If you don't receive a post card, but feel you are within traveling distance and would like to attend either of the meetings you are welcome to do so.

We just ask that you register in advance.

If you have any questions regarding either meeting please contact Dana Butterfield at (918) 678-6319 or dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org.



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend, Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Princess Emilee Wills and dancer/tribal citizen Josh Garcia take time for photos at the Town Hall in California last year.



www.wtok.org

WYANDOTTE SERVICES

Wyandotte Services awarded STARS II contract

Wyandotte Services, a 100 percent tribally-owned 8(a) certified Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) company that is operated and managed within the federal chartered corporation of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (WTOK), has been awarded the STARS II Government-Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) during its Open Season period.

This contract vehicle provides federal agencies with access to IT solutions from 8(a) industry partners and has a \$10 billion program ceiling. Wyandotte Services has received its notice to proceed and is now able to market the 8(a) STARS II GWAC to all government agencies and receive task orders under the Constellation I, Functional Area 3 - Computer Facilities Management Services.

Wyandotte Services provides customers with an experienced 8(a) technical and professional services contractor. Wyandotte Services supports the economic development of WTOK and WTOK's stated mission "to advance the standard of living of the Tribe...and to promote in any way the general welfare of the Indians of the Wyandotte Nation."

This mission is reflected in economic development programs that support nutrition and health services, housing, and educational scholarships for tribal citizens.

www.wyandotteservices.com

Wyandotte Technologies receives 8(a) certification



Wyandotte Technologies has received 8(a) certification through the Small Business Administration (SBA) 8(a) Business Development Program. The 8(a) certification opens the doors for Wyandotte Technologies to compete for sole-source/direct award and competitive federal contracts that are set aside under the 8(a) program.

It provides Wyandotte Technologies the opportunity to showcase its capabilities and quality performance within the federal marketplace.

Wyandotte Technologies (WT) is a 100-percent tribally-owned Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) company that is operated and managed within the Wyandotte Nation's federally chartered corporation the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (WTOK).

Wyandotte Technologies specializes in commercial/industrial, education, healthcare, and retail technology and physical security solutions.

WT's certified staff has over 27 years of combined experience in system design and integration. Their capabilities include prox-



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
Wyandotte Technologies recently received 8(a) certification to be able to compete for federal contracts set aside under the SBA 8(a) program. Wyandotte Technologies recently finished work at the River Bend Casino & Hotel and the Turtle Stop in Wyandotte, Okla.

www.wyandottetech.com

imity and biometric access controls, video surveillance, security alarm systems, gate and barrier systems, intercom systems, GPS tracking, wireless networking, data cabling (copper and fiber), and commercial audio/video systems.

Wyandotte Technologies supports the economic development of WTOK. Its capabilities and

expertise support WTOK's stated mission "to advance the standard of living of the Tribe...and to promote in any way the general welfare of the Indians of the Wyandotte Nation." This mission is reflected in economic development programs that support nutrition and health services, housing, and educational scholarships for tribal citizens.

Officers bring Christmas to families

WNTPD participates in 'Shop with a Cop' to help local families during holidays

By WILLIAM SWAIM
WYANDOTTE NATION

The Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police Department (WNTPD) wrapped up another successful 'Shop with a Cop' Saturday, Dec. 2, by giving a bit of Christmas to 18 children and 12 parents. In addition to gifts, each family also received a box of food for Christmas dinner.

"We had another great year of 'Shop with a Cop' thanks to the generous donations from the Tribe and Community," said WNTPD Chief of Police Ken Murphy. "It allows us to provide a happy holiday for those families that may not otherwise have one. It also lets us have one-on-one time with several children in the community to build relationships and trust."

Local families experiencing economic hardships can't always provide their children with their



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

The Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police Department once again participated in the 'Shop with a Cop' program to bring a little Christmas to area families. The officers picked the children up from their homes, treated them to pizza and then took them shopping for gifts.

See **Shop with a Cop**, Page 7



Shop with a Cop

Continued from Page 6

own celebration of Christmas. That is where the “Shop with a Cop” program comes in, joining underprivileged children with WNTPD officers, providing the children with money to shop for Christmas presents for their families and themselves. The program is made possible through local donations.

“Being the conduit for the community to contribute directly to families that are in need is a great privilege for us. We’re blessed to work in such a caring and generous community,” Chief Murphy said.

Participating WNTPD officers picked up the families at their homes and transported them to Neosho, treating them to pizza at Mazzios before heading to Walmart where they shopped. Following the shopping, they brought them back to wrap the presents.

The officers, volunteers and local donations were a huge part to making the event another success:

Officers: Ken Murphy, Steve Johnston, Faron Lee, Richard Teeter, Philip Brice, Jared Robinson

Volunteers: Pat Wilson, Kristi Johnston, Christen Lee, Kim Keller and her niece Nicole, Joey



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

Murphy, Dana Butterfield, Leesa Hibbard, Geri Wisner, Heather Douglas and Tara Robinson. Bus Driver: Larry Hamilton.

Donated food: Ham - Walmart Neosho; 10 lb bag of Potatoes - G

& W Grocery; Apples and Oranges - Title VI; Canned Goods - Food Pantry; Bags for fruit and candy - Dollar General; Box of stuffing -Kathy Friend; Icing and Peas - Annetta McLaughlan;

Eggs, Gravy Mix, Corn Bread - Kristi Johnston; Candy for kids - Title VI; Cookies (6 dozen for wrapping party) - Title VI; and Pop (for wrapping party) - Turtle Stop.

Calls for service increase for WNTPD; crime incidents remain low

Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police Department Chief of Police Ken Murphy said calls for service in the Wyandotte area have steadily increased while incidents of crime have remained low.

“The increase in calls for service is primarily attributed to community members calling when they see something that doesn’t look right,” he said. “We continue to encourage ‘See Something, Say Something’ by calling the police to investigate suspicious activity.”



Police 2017 Report

Submitted by Ken Murphy, Chief of Police
(These statistics include the tribal jurisdiction in Kansas City)

Call for Service	2375	Civil Papers Entered	21
Other Agency Assists	421	Traffic Collision Reports	13
Reportable Incidents (adult)	158	Traffic Citations	131
Reportable Incidents (juvenile)	19	Traffic Warnings	462
Domestic Violence Incidents	13	Of those / top 3 reasons:	
Persons Arrested	43	21% Speeding 11-15 over	
Warrants Entered	35	19% Speeding 1-10 over	
		10% Defective Equipment	



Holiday Celebrations

Photos by William Swaim

To see more photos from all of our events, visit our Facebook page and 'Like' us.



The Wyandotte Nation Preschool and Elder Services celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas with fun, food and entertainment. (Pictured above and left) The Turtle Tots celebrated Christmas with a program featuring songs and poems, and followed it up with treats, and a visit and gift from Santa Claus. (Pictured below) Elder Services hosted its popular annual Thanksgiving Dinner in the Title VI Building. (Below Left) Elder Services Director Brenda House takes time for laughs with guests as a full house enjoys a good meal (below middle). Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend (below left) kicks off the festivities by thanking staff and volunteers for their time in putting together the feast.



TRIBAL CITIZEN & COMMUNITY NEWS

Thanks to all who came out to support Wyandotte Nation family at Chili Feed

Recently one of Wyandotte Nation families suffered the loss of their home during a fire on New Years. Thankfully all are safe but suffered the loss of everything.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, the Wyandotte Nation Culture Committee and the Honor Guard came together to work with Nation

employees who volunteered their time and talent to hold a benefit chili feed. In spite of the cold weather, many people braved the elements to come out and support the family.

I was honored to have tribal employees and volunteers from several areas pitching in to help

out. It was a wonderful event with many old friends sharing stories and rekindling friendships.

Thanks to Chief Billy Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand who supported the idea of the event and making Title 6 available. The willingness of our citizens and employees to come

together and support a family in need is one of the best examples of what it means to be Wyandotte.

Tizameh to all who participated.

David Culver
Culture Committee
Honor Guard

Children's Christmas Party



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
The Wyandotte Nation hosted its Annual Children's Christmas Party at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center gymnasium Saturday, Dec. 9. The Wyandotte Nation youth were treated to cookies and punch, and received a visit from Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and Santa's Elf, who took time to pose for a photo. The children then got to pick out a Christmas gift among a spread of boys and girls toys and games.



2018 Summer Youth Program

The Wyandotte Nation Government is seeking Wyandotte Nation Tribal Citizens to fill 25 positions for the 2018 Summer Youth Program.

Criteria for this program:

- Enrolled in high school or college (as a full time student=12 hours) and must provide proof of enrollment or proof of enlistment in the military on first day of work
- If previous participant in program was a college student, must show proof college semester was completed
- Must be ages 16-22
- Must be enrolled as a Wyandotte Nation Tribal Citizen
- Must have dependable transportation to and from work
- Ability to fulfill the requirements of the assigned position
- Previous participants must have completed prior year in good standing
- Must pass a background check and drug screen

Eligible participants will work 40 hours per week at \$9/hour. Current assignments are available in the following areas: Education, Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center, Title VI (Elder Services), Administration, Gaming, Tribal Heritage, Maintenance, Environmental, Turtle Stop Car Wash, Wyandotte Precision Products and Information Technology.

If you do not reside in our local area and are interested in participating in the Summer Youth Program, housing is available on a limited basis. "First come, first serve" to qualify for housing must be entering your 3rd year of college.

Applications are available at the Wyandotte Nation Administration Building located at 64700 East Highway 60, Wyandotte, OK 74370 and must be submitted by April 15, 2018. Positions are limited and will be filled based on availability so please submit your application as soon as possible. If you have previously been a participant in the summer youth program you still need to contact Human Resources.

For more information and to schedule an interview please contact Becki Bursleson. Human Resources Assistant at 918-678-6337, or you may email her at beckib@wyandotte-nation.org.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Human Resources

*Submitted by Deana Howard,
HR Director*

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department is very happy to welcome Nettie Detherage as a Substitute; Tammy Sherwood as an Early Childhood Food Service Cook; and Faye Woods as an Early Childhood Food Service Team Member.

Nettie attended Afton High School, NEO A&M, and NEO Vo-Tech. Nettie worked for Cherokee Nation for 24 years. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her granddaughters and taking them to rodeos. She also

enjoys traveling, beading, and stained glass work. We are very fortunate to have Nettie to fill in as needed.

Tammy comes to us with years of food service experience and enjoys working with children. She enjoys shopping, arts and crafts, and loves taking cruises. Tammy's family pastors a church and are very involved in many church activities. We are very fortunate to have Tammy on our team and her

wish the best of luck in her position. After serving as an Indian Child Welfare worker for two different tribes and as Director of the Women's Shelter, Faye took some time off to spend with her family. She is excited for the opportunity to join the Education Department. Her hobbies include almost anything outdoors. She loves to hike, travel, cook, watch sports, anything to do with her kids, and photography. She also loves to read and write, and comes from a long line of writers. We are very fortunate to have Faye on our team and wish her the best of luck in her position.

Kelly Gaines has also joined the Education and Title VI Departments as a Substitute. Kelly loves to work



Gaines much success in her new position.

The Family Services Department is very happy to welcome Lisa Arnold. Lisa will serve as Domestic Violence Advocate/Educator. She obtained her Associates' Degree in Science-Education. Lisa has her OVAA Victims advocacy training and is certified in mediation. She has worked as a legal assistant for numerous years. Her passion has always



Arnold been helping victims of domestic violence. She has participated at area schools and events speaking about domestic violence and looks forward to this new opportunity. In her spare time, Lisa enjoys spending time with her children and family. She also enjoys running, participating in 5ks, and singing. We are very fortunate to have her join the Wyandotte Nation Team and wish her much success in her position.

The Wyandotte Nation Police Department is proud to welcome Mark Ellison. Mark started his career in 1992 for the Town of Wyandotte. He has worked for Craig and Ottawa Counties through the years. Mark moved to Wyoming for 12 years and recently moved back to Oklahoma to pursue his career in Law Enforcement. He served as a reserve officer for the town of Disney and is honored to begin his career here at Wyandotte Nation. In his spare time, he enjoys camping, flipping houses, and motorcycling, and boating with his family. We are very fortunate to have Mark and wish him much success in his new position.



Ellison back to Oklahoma to pursue his career in Law Enforcement. He served as a reserve officer for the town of Disney and is honored to begin his career here at Wyandotte Nation. In his spare time, he enjoys camping, flipping houses, and motorcycling, and boating with his family. We are very fortunate to have Mark and wish him much success in his new position.

The Facilities Department welcomes Josh McLaughlin as a Facilities Technician. Josh is a Wyandotte Nation Tribal Citizen and graduated



McLaughlin from Seneca High School. Josh has several years of experience in this field and in construction. He enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, singing and playing his guitar. We are very fortunate to have Josh on our team and wish him much success in his new position.

The Bearskin Fitness Center is very excited to welcome Carol Rickey to the team. Carol will serve as a Fitness Center Front Desk Assistant. Carol graduated from Joplin High School, and has worked in banking and school administration. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her grandkids, camping, hiking, swimming, and boating. She also enjoys bicycle riding, kayaking, and puppets ministry. We are very fortunate to have Carol on our team and wish her much success in her new position.



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The holidays have come and gone and we are looking forward to a great new year ahead of us. The Family Services staff have some new community programs it will be introducing through our Family Violence Prevention and will be working to improve upon existing programs. Be sure to watch Facebook and the website throughout the year for information about these opportunities as well as culture events such as the Gathering of Little Turtles, which will be held in June, and the Gathering in September.

The Family Services staff welcomed a new member to our team in January. Lisa Arnold will serve as the Domestic Violence Advocate/Educator. Lisa has a strong legal and advocacy background and will be a wonderful asset to the Tribe. She will provide advocacy and services

Family Services

*Submitted by Dana Butterfield,
Family Services Director*

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TAG REMINDERS:

- **Must be an enrolled citizen of the Wyandotte Nation, an Oklahoma resident AND the car must be principally garaged in Oklahoma Indian country.**

- **Insurance Verification must accompany renewals (except for RV's and Travel Trailers).**

- **If you are purchasing a new/used vehicle, the Tribal citizen's name MUST be on the Title at the time of assignment. Wyandotte Nation Tax Commission staff CAN NOT add or delete names.**

For questions, please call (918) 678-6329 or (918) 678-6319

to victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking, as well as doing awareness presentations and outreach projects.

Nearly 2,800 new Benny cards were mailed late last year replacing cards that expired in 2017 and we have been busy updating addresses and assisting with getting those cards activated. The Supplemental Health Program (Benny card) has been such a blessing for many of our families and we are thankful to the tribal leadership for continuing to fund this program. Please remember to keep your address up-to-date with our department so you will receive your quarterly statements and any other materials that are mailed throughout the year.

Winter Programs:

Winter Clothing – Began Nov. 1 and ends Feb. 28 for pre-K (must be enrolled in a structured learning program) through grade 12. OK, MO, AR, KS residents. Reimbursement program or Walmart gift card for \$100 per student. Applications, along with guidelines, will be available on the home page of the Tribe's

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Continued from Page 10

website. Please note there are separate applications for the gift card and reimbursement program. If you did not return your gift card receipts for either the School Supplies or last year's Winter Clothing, you will be required to use the reimbursement program this year.

Senior Energy - \$100 assistance paid directly to the utility provider. Eligibility requirements; 55 or older, OK, MO, AR, KS resident. Program begins Oct. 1 and ends Feb. 28.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE WINTER PROGRAMS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POST MARKED BY FEB. 28 TO BE ELIGIBLE AND BILLS/RECEIPTS MUST BE DATED BETWEEN OCT. 1, 2017 AND FEB. 28, 2018.

Yearly Programs:

For residents in OK, MO, AR, KS. Applications must be received or post marked by Sept. 30:

Elders Assistance - One-time expense for \$250 for tribal elders aged 55 and over.

Extra School Expense/Extracurricular Activities - One-time payment of \$100 per student aged pre - K through 12th grade.

Jr./Sr Benefit - \$250 benefit for expenses associated with the Junior and Senior years of High School.

Fuel Assistance - Programs available for fuel assistance: Hardship - personal hardships, travel for work/job interviews, etc; Medical - travel to/from doctor/dental appointments and pick up prescriptions; Major Medical - extreme medical issues (must be life threatening, terminal, etc. not chronic medical issues) that require multiple trips outside of the local area.

Other Programs:

Summer Senior Energy - \$100 assistance paid directly to the utility provider. Eligibility requirements; 55 or older, OK, MO, AR, KS resident. Program begins July 1 - Sept. 30.

Child Safety Seats - Each child is eligible for 3 seats in different sizes and can be picked up at the tribal office.

Promoting Safe & Stable Families/Indian Child Welfare - Program is funded through a federal grant from the Administration for Children and Families, and is designed to help keep children in their homes with the family or ensure that

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Unfortunately, 1 in 10 teens report being physically abused by a boyfriend or girlfriend within the last year. It is very important that you communicate with your teen. You can begin by talking to your teen about the importance of healthy relationships and treating others with respect.

There are several types of teen dating violence such as; physical, emotional, verbal, spiritual and sexual abuse. We can help to protect our children by introducing them to the warning signs of teen dating violence such as:

if there is a need for removal that federal guidelines are adhered to and the best interest of the child is first and foremost. If your family is in a situation where the state is involved, please contact one of the Tribal Social Workers.

Enrollment - Aug. 15 is the deadline to be considered for enrollment at the 2018 Annual Meeting. Applications must be submitted along with an original state certified birth certificate.

New Enrollee Benefit - If a child's application is received prior to their first birthday they will receive a \$100 Walmart gift card and a blanket embroidered with the Tribal Turtle.

Tribal Tags - Available for tribal citizens who reside in Oklahoma. Passenger, RV, Motorcycle and Handicap tags are available. Please call the office for prices and additional information.

Supplemental Health Benefit (Benny Card) - This program has been renewed and accounts were loaded Jan. 1, 2018. The benefits will be the same as previous years with a \$1,000 per year benefit for adult (18 and over) tribal citizens. Tribal citizens who have enrolled Wyandotte Nation dependents will receive an additional \$1,000 for a maximum of \$2,000 per account. Quarterly statements are mailed by CoreSource to show remaining balances, but account balances can be obtained at any time via www.mycourcesource.com or by calling (800) 990-9058 ext. 42086. There's also a great new smart phone app from CoreSource. The app shows balances, claims/purchases and allows for the submission of claims right from your phone. If you would like more information about the app or how to

peer pressure, isolation or exclusion, sexual coercion, threats, minimizing, denying, blaming, intimidation, misuse of social status and emotional abuse.

The risk of teen dating violence escalates with the introduction of alcohol and/or drug abuse. By providing an open line of communication with our teens we increase the chance they will trust in you, as their caregiver, in the event they are in a situation that becomes harmful to them. We can also encourage our teens to contact someone they can trust in the event they are aware of another teen that may be in a dangerous relationship.

set it up, please feel free to contact a member of the Family Services staff or CoreSource.

Burial Assistance - \$1,500 to be paid to the funeral home or to the family representative if the funeral is paid in full.

Family Violence Prevention Program: Advocacy and services for individuals who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking as well as awareness campaigns, events and cultural activities to educate the community.

If you are concerned for your child's safety or the well-being of another teen please feel free to contact me for support or additional information.

Lisa Arnold
Domestic Violence Advocate / Educator, Wyandotte Nation Family Services
(918) 676-6324

Additional Resources:
 Talk to your kids about healthy relationships and lead by example!
<http://1.usa.gov/W8OdLp>
 Worried about your child's relationship? Check out ways to help:
<http://bit.ly/L2Q1q3>

Family Services Staff:

Director, Dana Butterfield (918) 678-6319, dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org
 ICW Supervisor, Tara Gragg (918) 678-6355, tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org
 ICW Worker, Tiffany Garner, (918) 678-6353, tgarner@wyandotte-nation.org

Assistant, Leeanna Radabaugh, (918) 678-6329, lradabaugh@wyandotte-nation.org
 DV Advocate/Educator, Lisa Arnold, 918-678-6324, lisaarnold@wyandotte-nation.org

Wyandotte Nation Family Services Programs Dates to Remember

Elder's Assistance: Oct. 1 - Sept. 30
Senior Energy: Winter: Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Senior Energy: Summer: July 1 - Sept. 30
LIHEAP: (if available) Winter: Dec. 1 - Feb. 28
LIHEAP: (if available) Summer: July 1 - Sept. 30
School Supplies: July 1 - Sept. 30
Children's Winter Clothing: Nov. 1 - Feb. 28
Extracurricular Activities: Oct. 1 - Sept. 30
Jr./Sr. High School Assist.: Oct. 1 - Sept. 30
Children's Christmas Party: Dec. 8
Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting: Sept. 8
 (Second Saturday of September each year)

Note: All applications must be in our office or post marked on or before the last day of the program.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Elder Services

*Submitted by Brenda House,
Elder Services Director*

We would like to thank everyone that helped with our Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners. Without you, we could not have done this for our Elders. They always look forward to these dinners and are very appreciative of all of the hard work done on their behalf.

Our Valentine Party will be Wednesday, Feb. 14 during the noon hour. We will have prizes for the oldest valentine, couple married the longest, newly weds and the one that has been married the most times and is willing to admit it.

The Senior Turtles Gift Shop will be holding their Annual Valentine Flower Sales beginning Thursday, Feb. 13 and will be taking orders until noon Wednesday, Feb. 14.

We will be collaborating with area tribes, Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging, The Alzheimer's Association, Good Shepherd Hospice, Quaker Hill Nursing Home, Senior Companions, The Lions Club, Saint Maude Mercy Hospital and the NEO Vo-tech Nursing Program to hold our Annual Spring Health Fair/Caregiver Conference Friday, March 23, at the First Christian Church in Miami, Okla. Brunch and lunch will be provided. There will be booths and many door prizes. We will also be giving away two recliners.

Our Easter Party will be Thursday, March 29, during the noon hour. We will have prizes for the Women's Easter Bonnet Contest and Men's Sexy Leg Contest. We will also have



an Easter Egg Hunt. Prizes will be given for the prize egg and the most eggs found.

We will be heading back to the horse races at Will Rogers Downs in Claremore, Okla., sometime in April.

CAREGIVER

The Caregiver Support Group meets the first Thursday of each month. The meetings are held in the safe room in the Artie Nesvold Community Center (Title VI) at 10:30



COURTESY PHOTOS

Elder Services hosted a Christmas Dinner for the area. In addition to great food, Santa Claus was on hand to visit with area elders.

am. The group is open to all current and past Caregivers. Please contact Brenda for information.

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

Elder Services Staff:

Brenda House, Elder Services Director, (918) 678-6327.

Stephanie Hamilton, Food Service Team Supervisor, (918) 678-6328, (Office) 6390.

Seth Higginbotham, Chris Rhodes and Twylia Stone, Food Service Team Members (918) 678-6328.

Menu, (918) 678-6326.

Education

*Submitted by Tammy Charles,
Education Director*

The beginning of a new year brings a fresh book to write and the opportunity to make changes that will enhance the world we live in. I so enjoy listening to the children talk about the holiday break and receiving messages from students that are returning to class after the holiday break.

The staff of the Education team had a busy fall and are preparing for a productive spring with events, trainings and daily operations. Prior to the beginning of the New Year,

we celebrated with our program participants with holiday parties and programs. The afterschool children had a party, decorated sugar cookies, and had a challenge with an overstuffed piñata. WIOA and Child Care Programs had critical reports due for year-end performance standards. The Child Care and Development Fund subsidized more than 200 children in regulated care in FY 2017. We started processing scholarship funds and planning for the second semester of school as soon as those reports were complete.

On the tribal scholarship horizon, plans are in the works to unveil an honor stole for Tribal Citizens that complete a post-secondary degree.

Be looking for details and instructions to secure that item for college commencement. Please remember to send an unofficial or official transcript to the department to renew funding for the scholarship.

The first week of scholarships that was disbursed amounted to \$93,807 followed by \$105,407 in week two. Please continue to submit your documents for scholarships! May 1, 2018 is the due date for new applications for fall semester of 2018. Applications can be found in the member's only side of the tribal website or by contacting the Education Department by email or phone.

Wyandotte Nation Preschool will be celebrating 100 days in school

the end of January. Preparations for the Leaford Bearskin Memorial Pow-Wow will begin soon and the children will be learning dances and the Wyandotte Language to highlight for families and friends.

Our close relationship with Wyandotte Public Schools provides a great service in the transportation of our before and after school children. We are very lucky to be in a community that works together to achieve great things.

The Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act program has signed another memorandum of under-

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TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Environmental

**Submitted by Kathleen Welch,
Environmental Program Manager**

October

October is one of the prettiest times of the year, with the cooler temperatures and the changing of colors in the leaves and foliage.

We would like to welcome Braulio Ramirez to our department in the position of Environmental Technician II. Braulio will be assisting our department with various duties such as, monthly water sampling activities, recycle center duties, and various other activities.

Oct. 11-12, Christen Lee and I traveled to Lenexa, Kansas, for the Tri-State Mining District Meeting. This meeting brought folks together from seven Northeast Oklahoma Tribes, and from State and Federal Departments to discuss the effects of heavy metals (lead, cadmium and zinc, etc.) with in the Tri-State area.

The week of Oct. 18-20, Janice Wilson and Scott Mills traveled to Stillwater for a Drinking Water Training that was hosted by EPA Region 6 Staff. Also on Oct. 20, our department provided an information booth for the Bearskin Health Fair.

On Oct. 31 our department had a booth for the Turtle Tots Halloween Carnival. It is always so much fun to be able to interact with the chil-

dren and their parents.

November

Our work calendars for this month were completely full, and the month just seemed to fly by. Christen attended a Leadership Training in Branson, MO, during the week of Nov. 6-8.

On Nov. 15, I attended the Tar Creek Trustee Council Meeting in Tulsa at the Regional Fish and Wildlife Office.

On Nov. 16, I attended the (TECO) Tribal Environmental Coalition of Oklahoma Meeting. At this meeting, we held elections for 2018 Officers for both TECO and RTOC (Regional Tribal Operations Committee). Wyandotte was nominated as the Secretary for TECO, and also nominated to retain their position on the RTOC Council.

Nov. 17 was the Title VI Thanksgiving Dinner. It is such a pleasure and a privilege for our staff to be able, to help serve the elders and the community. We have so much to be thankful for at Wyandotte Nation.

During Nov. 29-30, Christen and I attended the Tribal Caucus and RTOC (Regional Tribal Operations Committee) Meetings in Catoosa, Okla.

December

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! The roller coaster temperatures have made it quite interesting for our monthly water sampling sites on the local creeks and rivers. There were days

Housing

**Submitted by Kathy DeWeese,
Housing Director**

It is hard to believe it is already 2018! Another year, another opportunity to provide housing for our members. A bid has been awarded to CWF Enterprises for the construction of two more senior duplexes. This construction should start within the next 30 days, and be completed by the end of summer.

Jan. 1 also brought a devastating event. One of our residents in tribal housing lost their home in an early morning fire. All were safe, but the home was a total

loss. We are presently working with the insurance company to replace the home.

All applications for the housing programs are online at the Wyandotte Nation website (www.wyandotte-nation.org). If you have further questions, please contact our office. We look forward to serving you.

Housing Staff:

Kathy DeWeese-Housing Director
Valari Richards-Housing Specialist
Levi Griffin-Project Coordinator
Paul Parker-Project Coordinator
Don Graham-Residential Maintenance
Drew Lankford-Residential Technician

where the temperatures were in the 60s and then the next day in the 30s, so we learned to dress accordingly.

This month also found us celebrating Christmas and enjoying the many activities at Wyandotte Nation. Along with meetings and trainings, our staff continues to perform monthly water monitoring on seven sites within the Wyandotte Nation Historic Jurisdictional Area. Staff also continues to collect private well samples for bacteria and heavy metals.

Meetings attended by staff:
ITEC, RTOC, NATURE, TECO,

TCTC, TCTCIT, TSMD and Spring River WRAPS

Services provided: Private Water Well Tests, Septic Assessments, Recycling Center

Environmental Staff:

Christen Lee – 918-678-6341
Kathleen Welch – 918-678-6335
Janice Wilson – 918-678-634
Jon Quick – 918-678-6352
Braulio Ramirez – 918-678-6396
Scott Mills – 918-678-6386
Lost Creek Recycle Center – 918-678-4001

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standing with agencies in Kansas to pool resources and partner to offer more benefits for clients in our service area.

Program Basics 101

The childcare subsidy program has openings to accept applications for families in need of assistance. Parents must be working or attending school to apply. To be eligible for Wyandotte Nation CCDF, you must reside within 100 miles of our tribal headquarters to apply. I am more than willing to help you locate assistance in your area with another grantee if you do not live in our "service area." If you are interested in more information, please contact the education office.

Undergraduate scholarship is \$2,250 per semester for up to eight semesters if all requirements are

met. The master's program can fund up to four semesters at \$1,500. Vocational funding is based on length and intensity of the course and the fees associated. For high school students, we assist with college concurrent course expenses as well as AP exam fees.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act continues to serve Native American citizens from the Southeast Kansas or Southwest Missouri area. Please contact the office to see if you may be eligible for assistance with educational endeavors.

The Education Department staff is available to assist Tribal citizens with resources in the areas of educational funding, childcare and the tribal library. Please contact us if we can be of service to you. The Tribal Citizen is our primary focus and we want to deliver the services that you need!



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

The tots enjoyed a Halloween Carnival during its annual program.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Important Numbers

Police Department

Ken Murphy (918) 678-3100x12
kmurphy@wntpd.com

Family Services / Enrollment / Tags

Dana Butterfield (918) 678-6319
dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org
School Supplies/Winter Clothing Leeanna Radabaugh, 918-678-6329, lradabaugh@wyandotte-nation.org
Domestic Violence Advocate/Educator, Lisa Arnold, 918-678-6324, lisaarnold@wyandotte-nation.org

Tribal Social Workers

Tara Gragg (918) 678-6355
tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org
Tiffany Garner (918) 678-6353
tgarner@wyandotte-nation.org

Human Resources

Deana Howard (918) 678-6320
dhoward@wyandotte-nation.org

Nutrition & Caregiver Services

Brenda House (918) 678-6327
bhouse@wyandotte-nation.org

Education / Library / Child Care

Tammy Charles (918) 678-6330
tcharles@wyandotte-nation.org

Historical

Sherri Clemons (918) 678-6344
sclemons@wyandotte-nation.org

Environmental / Planning / Development

Christen Lee (918) 678-6341
clee@wyandotte-nation.org

Housing

Kathy DeWeese (918) 678-6339
kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org

Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center

Kelly Friend (918) 678-3259
kfriend@wyandotte-nation.org

Clinic Appointments

Linda Coatney (918) 678-3228
lcoatney@wyandotte-nation.org
Elaine Fidler (918) 678-3230
efidler@wyandotte-nation.org

Dental / Vision

Jade Robertson, 918-678-3221,
jrobertson@wyandotte-nation.org

Pharmacy (call-in only)

(918) 678-3244

Fitness Center

Sharon Bartley (918) 678-3231
sbartley@wyandotte-nation.org

Contract Health

Bridget Burleson (918) 678-3227
bburleson@wyandotte-nation.org

Diabetes Clinic

Donna Spaulding (918) 678-3258
dspaulding@wyandotte-nation.org

Health

*--Submitted by Kelly Friend,
Director of Health Services*

Serious behavioral health issues such as substance use disorders, mental health disorders, suicide, violence, and behavior-related chronic diseases have a profound impact on the health of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) individuals, families, and communities. Bearskin Healthcare and the Indian Health Service aims to address these issues and promote the care system focus on integrated behavioral health and primary care treatment, while respecting the balance, wellness, and resilience of the people, including Wyandotte Nation and the Eastern Shawnee of Oklahoma.

The mission of the Indian Health Service is to raise the health status of the American Indian and Alaska Native people to the highest level possible. The vision of the Division of Behavioral Health is integrated health and wellness that is holistic, encompassing all aspects of the mental, physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of American Indian/Alaska Native individuals, families and communities.

The Division of Behavioral Health's mission encompasses the following eight goals:

1. To improve the overall health care of AI/AN individuals, families, villages, communities, and Tribes;
2. To reduce the prevalence and incidence of alcoholism and other drug dependencies;
3. To reduce the prevalence and incidence of behavioral health diseases and conditions;
4. To maximize positive behavioral health and resilience in individuals, families, and communities;
5. To support the efforts of AI/AN communities toward achieving excellence in holistic behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention services for individuals and their families;
6. To advocate for and support Tribal and Urban Indian behavioral health treatment and prevention efforts;
7. To promote the capacity for self-determination, self-governance, and service delivery; and
8. To advocate for AI/AN people and service providers by actively participating in professional, regulatory, educational, and community organizations at the national, State, Urban, and Tribal levels.

Bearskin Healthcare is pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Steven Abernathy, Clinical and Forensic Psychologist to the staff. Dr. Abernathy has a wealth of knowledge and experience in all age groups including elders, youth and adolescent mental health competency. He is a past President of the Oklahoma Health Service Providers Psychological Association.

In addition, he developed health plans, including environmental health plans for multiple tribes throughout the state of Oklahoma by identifying and assessing needs of the tribal communities.

After attending school in the Grove and Commerce areas, Dr. Abernathy attended and graduated Northeastern Oklahoma A & M College (AA in Social Sciences), University of Arkansas (BA in Psychology), Vanderbilt University (MS in Developmental Psychology), Oklahoma State University (MS in Clinical Psychology) and Oklahoma State University (PhD in Clinical Psychology).

He is looking forward to working with Eastern Shawnee and Wyandotte Citizens and emphasizing tribal involvement within the two tribes.

Planning & Development

Submitted by Christen Lee, Environmental & Planning Director

This has been a busy quarter for construction and reality. Engineering and other preliminary work continues on the State Line Road/Tribal Housing Water Line Project. Staff are currently working on the easements and archeological surveys. This is the first time we have had such a large project outside of our historical jurisdictional boundaries.

Engineering work continues on the road and storm water project next to our Tribal casino.

The Tribe was awarded a new Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) this fall. This grant will allow us to remodel some rooms at the Bearskin Fitness Center. We were also able to apply for community funds thru this grant and we will be updating our well house building on the hill behind the Fitness Center. Staff continue to work on updating one of our reality

program houses. We hope to have it ready for a new renter in the next quarter.

The Planning and Environmental Departments look forward to the new 2018 Program year!

Tribal Hunting and Game Commission

The Commission enjoyed a nice hunting season with 25 hunters out on Tribal properties. The Commission would like to remind all the hunters to please turn in their information to Robby Graham this month.

COURTESY PHOTO
John Tanner (Right) took this nice buck on the 55-acre trust land property in November.



TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Tribal Heritage

*Submitted by Sherri Clemons,
Tribal Heritage Director*

Happy New Year! Tribal Heritage is geared up for so many events this year... Little Turtles, Gathering and Pow-Wow!

Little Turtles will have new events added this year. We are adding a full day, which we have typically started at noon that Friday, but this year we will start at 10 a.m. This will allow a full day to do more of the activities. Watch for the pre-registration form on the Wyandotte Nation website (www.wyandotte-nation.org). The event is scheduled for June 22-24.

Pow-Wow and Gathering days are September 5-9. The Gathering will start at 9 am on Sept. 5 and end at noon the Sept. 7. The Pow-Wow starts Friday evening at 6 p.m. and wraps up Sunday, Sept. 9.

We will be hosting a Lacrosse Camp, but due to scheduling, it will not be held in conjunction with the Gathering of Little Turtles this year. Dates have not been set yet, but look for it in the next Turtle Talk.

Miss Loretta has been developing several new teaching activities for language. She has found these work well for children and adults as well.

We would like to invite anyone who has not been by the Cultural Center/Museum. The exhibit will be up until after the Gathering. It has all the past Princess dresses on display. The center is open Monday-Thursday 8 am - 4:30 pm, including lunch time, and 8 am - 3:30 pm on



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
The Wyandotte Nation's Cultural Center & Museum is open weekdays and the second Saturday of each month. Stop by to see the history and culture of the Wyandotte Nation.

Fridays. The Cultural Center will be open the second Saturday of each month from 8 am - Noon. This includes the gift shop.

Keep checking the website and

hope to see you and your families.

The Tribal Heritage Department would like to welcome Teresa Wilson aboard! Teresa has worked several places within the Wyandotte Nation,

most recently in Elder Services. She is a great fit and we are very happy to have her. She is the first smile you see when you come thru the front door.

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*



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