



The Turtle Speaks

Gyah'-Wish Atak-ia

A Wyandotte Nation Publication

Volume 22, Issue 3

www.wyandotte-nation.org

August 2018



GATHERING OF LITTLE TURTLES

Youth the future of preserving history, culture

PAGES 6-7

Gyah'-wish Atak-ia is published quarterly for Tribal Citizens by the Wyandotte Nation at its headquarters in Wyandotte, Okla.

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- Election upcoming for 2nd Chief
- Fireworks Display
- Preschool Graduation

Board of Directors

Chief.....Billy Friend
 Second Chief..... Norman Hildebrand, Jr.
 Councilperson..... Ramona Reid
 Councilperson..... Vivian Fink
 Councilperson..... Juanita McQuiston
 Councilperson..... Eric Lofland

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Editor/Design: William Swaim



Cover Photo:
*Youth at the
 Gathering of
 Little Turtles
 enjoy games.
 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

Celebrating the Wyandotte Culture

**“Two are better than one;
 because they have a good
 reward for their labour.”**

-- Ecclesiastes 4:9

I hope that this newsletter finds all doing well and enjoying the beginning of a new season.

Recently, we gathered for our strategic planning session to look ahead and map out what we feel to be our priorities for the next three to five years. One of our core goals is to strengthen, expand and further develop our Tribal Culture, simply defined as “Celebrating the Wyandotte Culture” by identifying ways to integrate our tribal identity into all we do.

As Wyandottes, we have a unique and distinct history that stretches back over countless generations. Our people originally made their home in a large territory that encompassed portions of what is now Canada, Michigan, Ohio and much of the Great Lakes area. Centuries later, in 1843, we were relocated to what is Kansas City, Kansas today. In 1867, our ancestors signed our final treaty and came to what was then known as Indian Territory, which now is the state of Oklahoma.

Our ties to our Wyandotte predecessors are deep and far reaching. Our people developed important traditions that we continue to honor today. They developed a spo-

ken language, an inclusive system of government, compassionate communities, a trading economy and a distinguished warrior tradition. Our Wyandotte heritage and culture are keys to who we are and where we are going in our lives. It impacts our lives each day. Promoting our Wyandotte spirit is of tremendous importance.

Today, the Wyandotte Nation is investing substantial time, energy and resources in preserving, promoting and celebrating our Wyandotte heritage and culture. We are working to expand our reach far beyond our Cultural Center and Museum, so that everyone can have access to our history and heritage. It is vital that we do so.

This approach is as valid today as it was hundreds of years ago. Achievement is never a singular endeavor. It is always the result of the efforts of many, including those of all ages and experience levels. Today we have many of our Wyandotte Citizens who have

dedicated themselves to helping us “Preserve the Future of our Past.” As Wyandottes, we understand that our elders and our young people play an equally important role in honoring our past and moving our people forward. Your heritage, Our heritage is very important and unique. You deserve to connect in the richness of who you are and what your heritage means in your life. We are proud of the journey our people have traveled. It’s fitting that we honor our heritage by making it a main focus in our lives.

A few years ago we worked with the National Park Service on a project called “The Journey of Understanding”. A group of educators from Michigan, Ohio, Kansas and Oklahoma traveled, on what we refer to as the “Wyandotte Trail of Tears”, to help them understand what our ancestors endured. Through this voyage, history unfolded before their eyes. I want to challenge each of you to begin your own “Journey of Understanding” to learn everything you can about what it is to be “Wyandotte”.

We have accomplished so much together and there is so much more ahead for all Wyandottes!

From the Second Chief | Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

The last excerpt from Wyandot Floats

Kweh
 Hello everyone! I would like to mention how nice a Spring we had but we didn’t have one. We went from the coldest April on record to the hottest May on record and it hasn’t slowed down any -- and we are getting into our hot time of the year July and August. Oh well that’s Oklahoma, weather freeze one day melt the next.

Now for the last excerpt on the

Wyandot Floats. In the years after the Wyandot’s arrival in Kansas, there were occasional attempts to claim floats, but they never seemed to get anywhere. At one point, Charles B. Garrett attempted to claim Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail as his float, and after the Kansas-Nebraska Act was passed in May 1854, there was apparently a proposal by a number of the grantees to locate their floats

on a two mile-wide strip up the length of the Big Blue River, north of the present Manhattan, Kansas. When the treaty of 1855 was being drafted, the Wyandot Tribal Council stated that the floats had never been located on available land due to the Wyandot’s inability to obtain advice from the government as to where “available” land



See **SECOND CHIEF**, Page 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2018

THE GATHERING

SEPT.
5-7



ANNUAL MEETING

SEPT.
8



HEALTH FAIR

OCT.
19



29TH ANNUAL POW-WOW

SEPT.
7-9



20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SEPT.
13



SCARECROW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS 5K RUN

OCT.
27



ALL EVENTS IN WYANDOTTE, OKLA. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Second Chief

Continued from Page 2

might be located. Consequently, when the treaty of 1855 was signed and ratified, Article 9 of the new treaty affirmed the land grants of 1842, on any unclaimed government lands west of the states of Missouri and Iowa. Note that these were not new grants, and they had nothing to do with the Wyandot Allotments that were also called for in the new treaty.

A final list of the Wyandot Floats was issued by John Calhoun, Surveyor General for Kansas and Nebraska Territories, on October 21, 1857. Once the location of each land grant was approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, patents of title were issued to the 35 original grantees, or to their heirs in the case of those who (like George Garrett, Doctor Greyeyes, or John M. Armstrong) had died the intervening years. A number of the grantees did quite well, as they were able to locate their floats on lands that became the sites of a number of eastern Kansas towns. In one such instance, Isaiah Walker sold his float on the south side of the Kansas River to the Topeka Association's town company for \$1,200, or almost \$2.00

"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour."

-- Ecclesiastes 4:9

an acre.

As most of the present Wyandotte County was part of either the Wyandot Purchase, the Delaware Reserve, or the Shawnee Reserve, only one float was located here. Silas Armstrong successfully claimed the area in the west bottoms between the Missouri state line and the Kansas River, where the Wyandots had first camped on their arrival in July 1843, as this was U.S. government land originally set aside for the proposed building of a fort, and had never been part of an Indian reserve. It is Armstrong's float that is sometimes mistakenly referred to as "the" Wyandot Float, but it was just one of 35. Well are you confused yet, the subject of the Wyandot Floats has always been controversial.

This is a short article to give the candidates more room for their letters to the voters.

Public Notice

Notice of Annual Meeting and Election

On September 08, 2018 the Wyandotte Nation shall hold their Annual Meeting and Election at the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center near Wyandotte, Oklahoma. The Election will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of the election is to elect the following positions:

- Second Chief
- 1 Board of Director member
- 2 Grievance Committee members

The term of each position is four years. Current members shall hold their office until successors are duly elected and given their oath of office.

POLLING PLACE: The official polling place for all Tribal Elections shall be the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center Classroom, Wyandotte, Oklahoma. The polling shall be opened from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Any voter in line at the polling place but unable to cast a ballot before 11:00 a.m. will be allowed to finish voting. The polling place shall be staffed by at least two (2) polling officials designated by the Election Board.

Each voter will be required to present a photo ID and Tribal Membership Card. If the Tribal Membership Card has a photo on it, this will satisfy both of these requirements.

Submit Your News: Submit a story idea or your latest news and photos.

Email William Swaim at wswaim@wtok.org.

WYANDOTTE NATION 2018 ELECTION

Rob Nesvold

2nd Chief Candidate

Kweh,
My name is Rob Nesvold and I am running for 2nd Chief of the Wyandotte Nation. I was born and raised in Seneca, Mo. I still reside there with my wife, Angela, and our three children, Kortney, Sydney, and Tanner.

I joined the Election Committee in 2000, and was an active member until I recently stepped down to run for this position. I have also served on other advisory boards in my hometown, including the Budget Committee on the City Council, the Grant Revision Committee of the Region M Solid Waste Management District, and the Seneca R-7 School Board which I am currently the President of. I graduated from Seneca High School in 1987 and continued my education at Missouri State University. In 1991, I graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Public Administration and minors in both History and Public Law.

I have always been proud of my Wyandotte heritage and I have enjoyed serving in smaller roles throughout the years. Now, I look forward to the chance to have a direct impact on the future of the Nation and all of its citizens. I be-



Nesvold

lieve that there are already many great programs in place that have contributed to the current success of the tribe and the betterment of its members. I want to ensure that these are kept in place

while also widening the spectrum of the healthcare and educational services.

I would greatly appreciate your support in the upcoming election Sept. 8. If elected, I promise to work every day for the advancement of our great Nation.

If you have any questions, I can always be contacted at robnesvold@gmail.com. You can also find campaign updates on my Facebook page: Rob Nesvold for 2nd Chief. Everyone is invited to attend a meet and greet on Sunday Aug. 26, 2018 from 3- 5 pm at the Heritage Acres Community Center at 14325 Porcupine Rd in Wyandotte.

**Thank you,
Rob Nesvold**

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

2nd Chief Candidate

My name is Norman Hildebrand, Jr. and I have been your Second Chief since 2011. I have been involved with the Wyandotte Nation since the early 1990s when I volunteered to be on the Grievance Committee. I held this position until I was appointed to the Board Of Directors in 2004, then Chief Bearskin asked me in 2010 if I would be interested in becoming Second Chief when he retired. Out of respect for everything he has done for our people I couldn't say no, and to carry on the solid foundation he established for the Wyandotte Nation is an honor I take very seriously.

Since taking on this position I have been involved with many projects that have benefited the Wyandotte Nation. The construction of about a dozen duplexes, the community center, the splash pad, improvements to the park, Culture Center/Museum, a third well and water line, River Bend Casino and Hotel. Presently we are widening and asphalt 640 road West of the casino, improvements at the Fitness Center, a waterline along Stateline road to bring good water to our Wyandotte Citizens and other residents that live in that area. I am the Wyandotte delegate to the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. I am the alternate delegate representing the Wyandotte Nation in the National Congress of American Indians of which I also serve on their Executive Board I am in my second 2 year term as the alternate vice-president of the Eastern Oklahoma Area. It is an honor to have the support and confidence of the twenty tribes that make-up the Eastern Oklahoma Area as one of their elected vice-presidents to represent them in the largest Native American organization in the country. I have several certificates from the Bureau of Justice Assis-



Hildebrand, Jr.

tance, National Intertribal Tax Alliance, Indian Health Service Office of Tribal Self-Governance and Oklahoma State University College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology.

I have shared the history of

the Wyandotte Nation in Canada, Michigan, Ohio, Kansas and Oklahoma with hundreds of students and various groups. It has always been a pleasure to tell our story to whoever asks me what is a Wyandotte?

I was born and raised in Miami, Okla. I graduated from Miami High School in 1969 and received an associate of Arts degree in business from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M in 1973. I have been married to my wife Kathy for 43 years, we have two children a son Ryan and daughter Randee. We have 5 grandchildren mostly all teenagers. I am the grandson of Alice (Harris) Hildebrand a very proud Wyandotte. I worked for Eagle-Picher Industries and Umicore Inc. the majority of my working career and held different positions within the production processes of Boron and the Infra-red and laser optics technology.

If I am re-elected as your Second Chief I will continue to work for the betterment of the Wyandotte Nation and its Citizens. I was humbled to have had Chief Bearskins support for this position and would be honored to have your vote, so we can continue to make the Wyandotte Nation the greatest Indian Nation in the country.

TIZAMEH!

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

Election: Sept. 8 at Annual Meeting



Don't Forget:

+ Membership/Citizenship Card

+ Picture ID

NOTE: Each Candidate was allowed to submit a letter to voters as well as a photo for this Election edition. 2nd Chief is the only contested race.

Turtle Tots don caps and gowns

By **WILLIAM SWAIM**
WYANDOTTE NATION

The Wyandotte Nation Preschool students donned caps and gowns Monday evening May 7 for their graduation.

The evening began with the processional and ended with the 101 students receiving their certificates as well as Kumon Honor Students receiving trophies. Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend, Second Chief Norman Hildebrand and Education Director Tammy Charles presented the certificates and awards. Also on hand were Council Persons Ramona Reid and Vivian Fink and Wyandotte Nation Chief of Staff Kim Harnar.

Each class also performed songs for the packed Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center Gym as friends and family congratulated the recent grads.

The evening was also significant as it was the first time it featured the new toddler program.



"I'm extremely pleased with the turn out and that those numbers reflect the family trust in the staff of the program to provide a qual-



ity foundation for the education of their children," said Tammy Charles, Education Director.

WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
Students receive their certificates and honors from Chief Billy Friend. The tots watched a video of their year in the classrooms.

'Battle of the Strong'

The annual Bearskin Strongman competition the "Battle of the Strong" was held Saturday, June 16 at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center.

The event featured ambulance pushing, truck pulling, tire lifting and more.

The Battle was hosted by the Bearskin Fitness Center and co-sponsors included the Wyandotte Nation, Eastern Shawnee and River Bend Casino & Hotel.

Battle of the Strong Results:

Male Lightweight

1st Ryan Cooper (Wyandotte Citizen)

2nd Kasen Fanning

Male Heavyweight

1st Mike Tushka

2nd Mike Lingo

3rd Kevin Tushka

Female Heavyweight

1st Johnna Dillinger



William Swaim/Wyandotte Nation

Sharing history, culture with youth

Gathering of Little Turtles another success

By WILLIAM SWAIM
WYANDOTTE NATION

Preserving history is crucial to the future of Tribes. Passing along that history to youth so that they can teach it to future generations is how that history, the culture and language survive and thrive.

“Our culture and history is something that we love to share with all of our citizens,” said Loretta Combes, Wyandotte Nation Tribal Heritage Specialist. “It is important to know where we came from as that is what shapes us today.

“Knowledge of where we originated, how we get where we are today, our customs, our language tell a lot about who we truly are and how far we have come. The heartaches and obstacles that our ancestors overcame shows how strong they were as Wyandottes and gives us the drive to do the same.”

In its continuing effort to preserve history and educate youth, the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Committee held its annual Gathering of Little Turtles June 22-24 at the Bearskin Fitness Center Gym. The Gathering kicked off with a full day Friday and wrapped up Sunday afternoon that weekend.

“It is our duty to our kids to share this very valuable information to provide them with the knowledge of history, but also to empower them to become the people they are destined to be... Wyandottes. We are proud people,” Combes said. “The kids are our future and I am proud to say that we, as a Nation, are working to develop these values in our kids. All citizens share in this and we are so thankful for you! Our ancestors would be proud at all the things we are ac-



complishing with our citizens!”

The event featured arts and crafts, games, language, social dancing, and a lessons in Wyandotte history. The youth got to try their hand at archery while also learning about beading, wampum belts (just to name a few of the arts and crafts) and played various games. Parents were also invited to take part in the various events with their kids.

Combes said they changed the format this year to include lots of social time for the kids and parents.

The Committee also had a special guest, Clarice Buffalo Head of the Ponca Nation, talk to the youth about dancing at powwows as well as what it takes to be a princess.



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

(Top) Johnny Web, Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard, helps youth learn about archery during one of the many activities that took place during the Gathering of Little Turtles. (Above) Dave Culver, Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard and Cultural Committee member, discusses history with youth.

TURTLES

Continued from Page 6

The Wyandotte Nation Family Services department also led the kids in a craft while showing a video to adults and the Environmental Department also instructed the youth Friday morning.

Dr. John Steckley continued to educate the youth on language, which has been an integral part of both the Gathering of Little Turtles and the upcoming Gathering this September.

“The Gathering of Little Turtles was a huge success! The kids were very engaged in every aspect. Many really enjoyed the history stations and Just for Fun activities,” Combes said. “I was very impressed by how much they learned and shared with us during question time. Their attentiveness in each session was amazing. Thank you so much to all that participated! We are so blessed to be given the opportunity to share our history and culture with the kids each year!”

The Wyandotte Nation Cultural Committee hosted its annual Turtles Lacrosse Camp June 12-14 with the Eastern Michigan Lacrosse team. The camp wrapped up Thursday, June 14, with a scrimmage.

The camp was open to boys and girls ages 10-17 and was held at Wyandotte HS football field.

“The Lacrosse Camp took place for three days this year and the kids enjoyed their time with the coaches from Eastern Michigan University as well as Tyler Foote from Denver,” Combes said. “The weather wasn’t the greatest but the kids endured with no problems.

“I wish to thank the staff from EMU as well as Tyler for their dedication and hard work. The kids really look forward to seeing them each year. They do an amazing job! Tizameh!”

Combes said if registrants have not provided feedback and/or suggestions yet for the Gathering of Little Turtles and would like to, please email me her at: lcombes@wyandotte-nation.org.



To see more photos from the Gathering of Little Turtles and the Lacrosse Camp, visit our Facebook page and 'Like' us.



www.facebook.com/WyandotteNation

Photos by
William Swaim



Feature: You've got Beef

Wyandotte tribal citizen offers safe and entertaining taxi rides in Greeley

BY BRIDGETT WEAVER
Greeley Tribune
(REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION)

On a warm summer night, Beef Sloan walked into the Jager in downtown Greeley with a purpose.

"BEEF! BEEF! BEEF!" rang out from every corner of the dark basement bar. But Beef was looking for the person who had called him for a ride.

When he gets a call to take somebody home, the mustachioed cabbie doesn't wait in his Denali for his customers to arrive.

"I don't just pull up. I go find them," he said. "I'll go right into the bar to find them and tell them 'Hey, I'm here, let's roll.'"

As soon as he walks into any of the downtown bars, he is met with handshakes, pats on the back and the shouts of "BEEF!"

Everyone knows his name — how could you forget it? He's not sure how it happened or why, but he's kind of famous around these parts.

If Greeley were New York City, Beef would be the naked cowboy in Times Square.

He's so well known among the students at the University of Northern Colorado and downtown Greeley's regulars that he even has his own show at the Moxi at 7 p.m. tonight. Raw Beef Sloan Life will be a montage of music, stories and readings from Beef's book, "Life vs Death Revised." His goal is to entertain.

Beef said his book is written just like it's him talking: "Once you get past the misspelled words and grammar, it's a pretty good read.

"There's 25 chapters — every chapter has a separate event of



(Above) Wyandotte tribal citizen Beef Sloan, left, talks with Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend before the Town Hall Meeting held in Colorado (photo by William Swaim, Wyandotte Nation). (Left) Sloan drives through downtown in Greeley (photo by Joshua Polson, Greeley Tribune). Sloan was featured in an article in the newspaper.



when I should have either been killed or crippled. I've always been kind of a rebel, very ornery, according to some of my kinfolk."

Whether he's on the clock or off, Beef hands out his business cards like candy on Halloween, each one featuring a yellow strip across the middle, on which "Have Denali Will Travel" is printed in black. He answers his ever-ringing phone with the same greeting every time: "You've got Beef."

Most people don't have beef with Beef. He's a safe, sober ride home for the downtown crowd and an easy-going guy to call for a ride to work. He quickly built a reputation among Greeley residents as such.

"I became personable with my passengers," Beef said.

When people get into his SUV, he often tells them that he's "a little old, ugly and senile." About 3 blocks into the ride he likes to say, "... and did I mention I'm

blind," he said with a full-bellied laugh.

Beef didn't plan on becoming a cab driver, but it has been part of a series of events that brought him back from the dark hole of depression and helped him start his own business, which is now thriving.

Beef started his cab-driving career with Smart Rides, but soon found himself at odds with the company, though he noted he has a lot of respect for the company. Even after leaving Smart Rides, though, his phone kept ringing. People knew and trusted him. He had really made a name for himself with his entertaining rides home, full of stories and maybe even a piece of questionable advice.

A few months after leaving Smart Rides, he was driving with Yellow Cab. Soon Beef realized he was the most requested driver in all of Greeley.

"I run seven nights a week. I believe I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing."
— Beef Sloan, Greeley cabbie and Wyandotte tribal citizen

"I never realized how popular I was, and that's when I really realized," he said.

Around the same time, a stroke of luck brought him the Denali, a big, gray SUV. It's size is nothing compared to the trucks he used to drive.

He decided to strike out on his own and went about the process of collecting the proper licenses.

He started driving for himself almost a year ago, last November. Now, he said, he can barely keep up with all the calls he gets from people who need a safe ride home.

"It's not about the money. It's about getting people home safe," he said. "And the more people that I take home, the less people that are taking the chance of getting in the vehicle and driving. I've been so very blessed that even at times that I cannot collect a fare, it comes back to me in many other ways."

He hopes to soon expand to another car and a second employee to keep up with the demand and to keep his wait times reasonable. But finding a trustworthy driver is important to him.

Meanwhile, he really likes being back behind the wheel, even if it normally is late at night.

"I run seven nights a week," he said. "I believe I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing."

Beef is from Greeley, but he's been all over. He's seen a lot of life from behind the wheel.

"The first thing I ever drove, at 9 years old, was a semi-truck and I just grew to love them. I've been driving something ever since I was 9 years old," Beef said. "I spent 20 years in the cab of a truck."

BEEF

Continued from Page 8

He liked driving, but an accident brought his trucking career to an end and simultaneously sent him into a downward spiral. After the accident he said there were times when he couldn't walk. More debilitating than the physical ailments, though, was the mental warfare going on between his ears and above his neck.

"I shut out the world for 17 years," he said. "I thought that was how I was going to spend the rest of my life, in my little room."

He credits his family with finally convincing him to go see a doctor. It was nearly 20 years after the accident that he finally admitted he needed help.

"It took me that long to get my mind right," he explained.

He saw a few doctors, who helped treat his chronic pain, and begrudgingly he went to see a counselor about that battle in his mind.

"Finally I said one day, 'OK, I will give him an hour,' and that's all it took," he said. "Just visiting with him and telling him my stories, I think just that in itself made me realize I've gotta get out. I've gotta do something."

Like he does now in his cab, he entertained his doctors with tales of life on the road, stories from his childhood and probably even a few from his less reputable days. They encouraged him to put pen to paper and write a book, which he said really pulled him out of that dark space. He said there are things in the book he didn't remember until he wrote them. It helped him get his thoughts in order.

"Writing this, getting it published, was probably the best therapy I ever had besides the encouragement from the doctor," he said.

You'd never know his past struggles these days. When someone asks Beef how he is, he never just answers "fine" or "good." Beef is always "awesome."

"Saying I'm fine, I'm good — that's common," Beef said. "I'm different. I'm unique. I'm awesome. And you're awesome. I'll let a person know they're awesome."



www.wtok.org

WTOK employees honored for years of service



WTOK CEO Kelly Carpino recognized several employees for their years of service recently and presented them with gifts during a luncheon. Debbie Johnson (pictured left), Payroll Supervisor, was recognized for her 25 years of service as well as Wyandotte tribal citizen Dalana Rutledge (pictured right), Accounting Manager, for her 20 years of service.

WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

20th Anniversary Celebration



September 13, 2018
3-6pm

Come Help Us Celebrate!
Food, Fun, Door Prizes

29th Annual
WYANDOTTE POW-WOW

September 7-9, 2018

\$35,000



In Prize Money

Contests in all Categories

Friday
8:00 p.m.

Grand Entries

Saturday
1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Sunday
1:30 p.m.



17th Annual Veterans Honor Program
All Veterans Welcomed



HEAD STAFF

Head Singer
Head Man Dancer
Head Lady Dancer
Head Gourd Dancer
Honor Guard
Arena Director
Head Judge
Master of Ceremonies
Northern Drum
Wyandotte Nation Princess

Gene Sovo
Chuck Bread
Nicole Ponkilla
Murry Rhoads Jr.
Wyandotte Honor Guard
Dude Blalock
Jay Blalock
Steve Kinder
Redscout
Sara Wright

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

Host Motel: Indigo Sky Hotel/Riverbend Hotel

POW-WOW CONTEST SCHEDULE

Friday, September 7
Evening

Mens Golden Age
Womens Jingle
Mens Straight
Jr. Girls Cloth
Womens Golden Age

49 Contest - Jay Blalock

Saturday, September 8
Afternoon

Jr. Boys Grass
Womens Fancy Shawl
Mens Traditional
Jr. Girls Jingle
Tiny Tots

Saturday, September 8
Evening

Mens Fancy
Jr. Girls Fancy Shawl
Womens Buckskin
Jr. Boys Straight

Stomp Dance - Bruce Martin

Sunday, September 9
Afternoon

Jr. Boys Fancy
Womens Cloth
Jr. Boys Traditional
Jr. Girls Buckskin
Mens Grass

Special Grandparents Day
Honor Dance
Prizes for the Oldest
Grandmother and Grandfather
present

Gourd Dancing

1 hour prior to all sessions.

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



Must Be Registered and Participate In Two Grand Entries and Two Exhibitions To Qualify For Contests. Must Be Registered In Only One Category. Must Be In Full Dress To Receive Contest Monies.

All Decisions by the Committee are Final!

The above schedule is intended as a guide only, and is subject to change at the discretion of the Pow-Wow committee!



All Food Vendors
must have
Oklahoma food
handlers permit



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

SHERRI CLEMONS
WYANDOTTE NATION
64700 E Hwy 60
WYANDOTTE, OK 74370
918-678-6344

*NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFTS
OR ACCIDENTS. ABSOLUTELY NO
FIREARMS, DRUGS, OR
ALCOHOL ALLOWED!*

Everyone welcome! Bring your cameras and lawn chairs! No personal shades setup before Friday afternoon. (NO PETS ALLOWED NEAR ARENA)

Wyandotte Nation's Annual Fireworks Display



The Wyandotte Nation's annual Fireworks Display was held Monday evening, July 2. The evening kicked off with various food vendors and bounce houses for kids, and continued into the evening with the always great Diversity Band performing classic hits for the large crowd. The band's music led into the fireworks show to cap off the evening's festivities.

Photos by William Swaim



ONLINE GIFT STORE

Tribal items, Native made & just COOL stuff!

Featured items: Tribal mugs, pins, T-shirts, caps, books, & totes

Check it out!

Convenient:

- Speed through checkout whenever you shop online.
- Pay with your credit card, debit card, or bank account. Your choice.
- No need to have or establish a PayPal account to purchase any of our products.
- No need to retype your financial information.

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TRIBAL CITIZEN & COMMUNITY NEWS

Wyandot History Digital Archive: Community Update

Volunteer to recover your Wyandot history! The first meeting of the WHDA Advisory Board met on June 25 at the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center & Museum in Wyandotte, OK.

Local community volunteers are needed to catalog and transcribe original letters written by your ancestors in libraries and archives across the United States. In early October WHDA editor Robert Wicks will conduct training on how to read nineteenth century letters, diaries and legal documents.

A Community Coordinator will be assigned to work with volunteers on the project. At this time, Sherri Clemons and Loretta Combes will serve in this role.

If you live in the Wyandotte, OK area and would like to participate, please contact Sherri Clemons or Loretta Combes to sign up. Details about the training will be forthcoming.

Wyandot History Digital Archive: <https://whda.omeka.net>.

Town Hall Meetings held in Arizona, Colorado

The Wyandotte Nation held the annual Town Hall Meetings Saturday, March 10, in Tempe, Arizona, and Saturday, April 28, in Aurora, Colo., for tribal citizens in those regions.

Tribal citizens were able to meet and talk with Chief Billy Friend, Second Chief Norman Hildebrand and key Wyandotte Nation staff (Chief of Staff Kim Harnar, Education Director Tammy Charles, Family Services Director Dana Butterfield, and Tribal Heritage Director Sherri Clemons), hear the state of the Tribe, enjoy lunch, and make connections with family members and other citizens who reside in their area.

In addition, tribal citizens got to meet and have their picture taken with new Princess Sara Wright and the Chiefs.

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 who live away from the Tribal headquarters in Wyandotte, and weren't able to attend the Annual Meeting held each September in Oklahoma.

Locations and dates for the 2019 Town Hall Meetings will be announced later.



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION
(Above) Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Jr., Princess Sara Wright and Chief Billy Friend take time for photos at the Arizona Town Hall. (Left) Nevaeh Cooper signs 'The Lord's Prayer' at the Town Hall Meeting in Denver.

A Wyandotte Walks



Just as the red-tailed hawk
pushes off with its talons
Taking flight from the high tree
branch and
soaring into the wind currents and
distant sky

So too
the young Wyandotte woman
steps from her porch
heavy pack full of necessities on
her back
one foot, one step, in front of the
other
the beginning of her long journey
unfolding before her

Though she is alone
she is not lonely
Beside her, in spirit
like the gentle whisper of the after-
noon breeze
walk her family, her friends, her
ancestors

Her home for this journey
the trail
Her bedroom
a sleeping bag in a one-person tent
Her wardrobe
the same most days

She will meet many challenges and
struggles
bee stings, blisters, rattlesnakes,
and heat
But, she will also experience
many blessings and gifts

Incredible Sunrises
Spectacular Sunsets
Dark nights spent under twinkling
stars

Desolate desert-scapes
Pine scented forested mountains
Sandy washes and rocky single-
track

Road crossings and water stops
Small towns and post offices

Trail angels
Trail magic
Trail mates
The kindness of strangers
Resupply boxes
Like unexpected presents on
Christmas morning
With surprise gifts and notes from
loved ones
All are a celebration
And help reenergize her spirit

She will continue on
Mile after mile
Gaining more distance behind her
than ahead
One foot, one step, in front of the
other

Seeking, being, learning, and
growing
Honoring, experiencing,
struggling and succeeding
Why, some may wonder
Because
she can

In honor of my daughter hiking the Pacific Crest Trail -- By Jody Van Zanten - Ya'di'srahetahka, April 24, 2018

Submit Your News: Submit a story idea or your latest news and photos. Email William Swaim at wswaim@wtok.org.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Human Resources

**Submitted by Deana Howard,
HR Director**

The Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center is happy to welcome Jaimee Walls as the new Health Information Management Coder. Jaimee has worked several years in the medical field and has previous coding experience. In her spare time, she enjoys working outdoors and restoring old furniture. She also loves spending time with her kids, grandkids and dogs. We are very fortunate to have Jaimee join the clinic and wish her much success in this position.



Wells

Family Services

**Submitted by Dana Butterfield,
Family Services Director**

The Family Services staff is looking forward to seeing our Wyandotte family at the Gathering, Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow. This is a wonderful time for tribal citizens to gather here in Oklahoma to meet new friends, visit with old friends and reconnect with family, while learning about the history and wonderful culture of the Wyandotte people.

The Heritage Department and Culture Advisory Board will have a great agenda again for the Gathering, which will begin Wednesday morning, Sept. 5 and run through noon on Friday the 7th. As mandated by the Constitution, the Annual Meeting will be Saturday, Sept. 8 at 10am in the gymnasium of the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center. There will also be an election this year at the meeting, so be sure to bring your tribal membership or citizenship card (CDIB's are not proof of enrollment and will not be accepted at the meeting) and photo ID to be eligible to vote, and receive your gift certificates. If your citizenship card has a photo included this will meet both requirements. Be sure to read the Annual Meeting and Election notice elsewhere in the newsletter for additional details. If you're in need of a tribal card please call the office

Employee of the Year



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

Congratulations to Becky Johnson! -- who was selected as 'Employee of the Year' at the Wyandotte Nation during an Employee Appreciation event held at the River Bend Casino & Hotel. Johnson was recognized for the energy and impact she brings as an educator at the Wyandotte Nation Preschool. Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand presented Johnson with the award.

or stop by and see us.

Applications for enrolling new Wyandotte Nation citizens must be received in the office or postmarked by Aug. 15. Each application must be accompanied by an original state certified birth certificate. The birth certificate will be returned. Applications received prior to a child's first birthday will receive a \$100 Walmart gift card and a special blanket.

The school supply program began July 1 and will again be available to all enrolled Wyandotte Nation citizens nationwide who are pre-K (minimum age 3) through grade 12. Every child will be able to receive up to \$100 for school supplies and/or clothing. Specific program instructions can be found on the website or by calling a member of the Family Services staff.

Other programs that began July 1 are the Senior Energy program

for tribal citizens 55 and over who reside in OK, MO, AR and KS and the LIHEAP program which is available to Oklahoma residents who meet income guidelines. Additional details for each are listed later in this article.

Please note that all of the Family Service programs (with the exception of the Supplemental Health Program/Benny card) end Sept. 30. No applications for this fiscal year will be accepted after that date. Most program applications can be found here on the tribe's website: <http://www.wyandotte-nation.org/community/family-services/>.

If you have a need for any Family Services program please don't hesitate to contact us. We are here to assist you. Dana Butterfield, Director, 918-678-6319; Tara Gragg, ICW Supervisor, 918-678-6355; Leeanna Radabaugh, Family Services Assis-

tant, 918-678-6329; Tiffany Webb, ICW Social Worker, 918-678-6353; and Lisa Arnold DV Advocate/Educator, 918-678-6324.

Summer Programs July 1-September 30:

LIHEAP – LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available, as funding allows, for tribal citizens residing in Oklahoma and is based on income.

School Supplies – Pre-K (minimum age 3) through grade 12. OK, MO, AR, KS residents can use either reimbursement program or Walmart gift card for \$100 per student. Citizens who reside outside of the four states will be required to utilize the reimbursement program. Applica-

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TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Continued from Page 14

tions are available on the homepage of the website or one can be mailed/faxed/emailed to you. If receipts for last year's school supply purchases were not submitted then you will be required to use the reimbursement program. All applications and receipts MUST be originals. We will not accept applications or receipts via email or fax.

Senior Energy - \$100 assistance paid directly to the utility provider. Eligibility requirements; 55 or older, OK, MO, AR, KS resident.

Programs that run throughout the year for residents in OK, MO, AR, KS. Applications must be received or postmarked by September 30th:

Elders Assistance - \$250 available for personal expenses for tribal elders aged 55 and over. Can be paid directly to the vendor or reimbursement.

Extra-Expense/Extracurricular Activities - \$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 - Fuel assistance

programs include: 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 threaten, terminal, etc. not chronic medical issues) that require multiple trips outside of the local area. Program provides fuel vouchers through the Turtle Stop convenience store for local tribal citizens or tribal citizens who travel to the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center.

Other Programs provided by the Family Services Department:

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 - This 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 their family or ensure that if there is a need for removal that federal guidelines are adhered to and the best interest of the child is put first and foremost. The tribe is actively seeking foster families. If you are interested in becoming a foster family please contact Tara for additional information.

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. Renewal notices are mailed as a courtesy by the 15th of the month prior to the expiration month. However, it is the tribal citizen's responsibility to be cognizant of the expiration date and renew in a timely manner. If you have moved please let the office know so we can keep your records up-to-date. It is also beneficial to notify the office if you no longer own a vehicle.

Supplemental Health Benefit (Benny Card) Nationwide - \$1,000 per year benefit for adult (18 and over) tribal citizens beginning January 1st each year. 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. Account balances can be obtained at any time via www.mycoresource.com or by calling 800-990-9058 ext. 42086. Family Services staff can also answer questions about the program, but may need to refer you to CoreSource in some instances. Please remember that this benefit is for enrolled Wyandotte Nation citizens only (no spouses, step-children, etc.).

Burial Assistance, Nationwide - \$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 - Program provides advocacy and services to victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. This

program is not limited to Wyandotte Nation citizens. Please contact Lisa if you are in need of these services.

Winter Clothing (OK, MO, KS, AR residents) - \$100 per student aged pre-K (age 3) through grade 12 will be available either through a Walmart gift card or reimbursement. Receipts for reimbursement must be dated between Oct. 1, 2018 and Feb. 28, 2019. However, gift cards and reimbursements will not be available until Nov. 1, 2018. Applications MUST be received or post marked no later than Feb. 28, 2019.

Senior Energy (OK, MO, KS, AR residents) - Winter energy assistance will begin Oct. 1, 2018 and the service bill must be dated after Oct. 1. Program will end Feb. 28, 2019, applications must be received or postmarked by this date.

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.
 - Oklahoma 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

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.

Start your journey today

You don't have to be perfect to be a foster parent.

Every year thousands of children are placed in foster care. When a child who is a member or is eligible for membership in the Wyandotte Nation, is placed into foster, the ideal situation is for that child to be either with family or in another Wyandotte tribal home. Children need a safe, loving place to stay. That is all you need to start the process of becoming a foster parent. It doesn't matter where you live, please contact the Family Services Department to start your journey today.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Elder Services

*Submitted by Brenda House,
Elder Services Director*

We have collaborated with the Ottawa, Peoria, Eastern Shawnee, Quapaw, Seneca-Cayuga tribes and the Tulsa Food Bank, and will be holding a Food Distribution Aug. 31 at the High Winds Casino parking lot from 11am to Noon. Each tribe has 20 tickets to distribute to families in need. Participants will need to pick up their tickets from their Title VI Program prior to the event.

We are getting closer to the Gathering, Pow-Wow and Annual Meeting. It will be here before we know it. We will have the Hog Fry again this year following the Annual Meeting at the Artie Nesvold Community Center (Title VI Building). We are looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Our Annual Elders Picnic will be Sept. 21 from 10am to 1pm at the Twin Bridges State Park in Wyandotte, Okla. Duke Mason will be entertaining us. There will be line dancing, two stepping, the train and the chicken dance. We will also have games. Good Shepherd Hospice will be grilling burgers. We will have sides and deserts. Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging will have an information booth on Medicare Part D and we will have many door prizes.

We will have our Annual Health Fair at the Bearskin Health and Wellness Center Oct. 19 from 9am to 1pm. Lunch will be provided. Duke Mason will be entertaining us again. There will be many booths and door prizes. We will also be giving away two recliners.

CAREGIVER

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

Department 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*

I have always heard if you don't like the weather in Oklahoma, stick around, it will change. I am certainly hoping that is true as we are in the hottest days of summer and I am already looking forward to fall and cooler temperatures.

Another blessing that will be received this fall is an increase in undergraduate funding for scholarship recipients. The Undergraduate Funding will increase to \$2,500 per semester.

The 2017-2018 preschool year concluded in May and we are busy preparing for a new group of students to begin in August! Letters of acceptance have been mailed and we are expecting a great response! We will continue to maintain five classrooms of students and the staff is working diligently to prepare the lesson plans and exciting activities for them. Programming for before and after care for school age children is accepting applications as summer will conclude and school will begin before we know it.

The Child Care and Development Program is in the planning stages for changes in our program services, rates of pay for providers and trainings for the coming months. We will begin offering five day a week authorization to allow for continuity of care for the children regardless of parental work schedule. That change will also assist our providers by securing a regular income. Training will be held to assist all grantees with complying with program regulations. The CCDF program is a valuable resource to aid in the child care expenses of our families and we want to keep that funding in place! The childcare subsidy program is accepting 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. It would be my pleasure to help you locate assistance in your area with another grantee if you do not reside in our "service area."

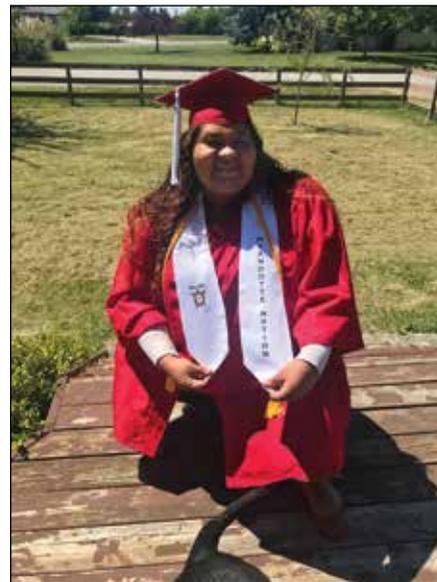
The Wyandotte Nation Summer Program in the Early Care and Education Program is in full swing. We are averaging 70 children per day. The groups of children are busy in a variety of programs on and off site. We are blessed to have several of our former students and tribal youth



Joshua Garcia



Jennifer Goodman



Airiana Johnson (above)
Janet Grant (right)



now serving in the capacity of intern for the summer months. Interns in our group this year are Felicity Bruegel, Brendan Cooper, Frankie Douthit, Abby Friend, Caleb Garcia, Chelsea King, and Katelyn King.

The fall distribution for scholarship funds will begin the first week of August. As mentioned earlier, undergraduate funds will increase to \$2,500 per semester for fully enrolled participants. Friendly reminder, if you haven't submitted your updated transcript for Fall funding, please do so as soon as possible to avoid issues with Fall coursework. It was quite exciting to receive several photos of tribal citizens that wore the new Wyandotte Nation honor stole

at their commencement ceremonies. Please do not hesitate to reach out and ask for assistance with applications or questions regarding funding for educational programs. We have funding for high school/college concurrent, high school vocational, undergraduate and graduate programs.

The WIOA program is currently subsidizing the educational endeavors of 26 students. Our grant proposal was submitted and we are awaiting approval from the Department of Labor. A quick reminder that these funds are available to assist

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TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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members of federally recognized tribes in the Southeast Kansas and Southwest Missouri area.

The Education Department staff is available to assist Tribal citizens with resources in the areas of educational funding, childcare and the tribal library. If you have any questions or if we may assist you in the application process for any of our programs, please do not hesitate to reach out! The Tribal Citizen is our primary focus and we want to deliver the services that you need!

Department Staff:

Tammy R Charles- Director of Education 918-678-6330 office; 918-944-0394 cell

Cristi Hudson- Child Care Resource Referral 918-678-6334

Kayla Collins- Education Specialist- WIOA 918-678-6331

Housing

Submitted by Kathy DeWeese, Housing Director

Summer is in full swing, and the Heritage Acres Park and Splash Pad has been also. This area has been great, not only for the Wyandotte area, but also surrounding areas. Day Care centers, and area summer schools have benefited from using the pavilions and splash pad. If you have not visited our park area, please do so. Our hope is to be able to expand the park area and add more features.

If you looking to purchase a home within a 50-mile radius of our tribal headquarters, and qualify for a conventional loan, check out our down payment assistance. Applicants must qualify by federal income guidelines. Funding is limited, and on a first come first serve basis

All housing applications are now on the website. If you are interested in rental units, please submit an application. Proof of income, and a copy of your tribal card will need to be submitted with the application. Federal income guidelines are followed.

The Community Center is open daily from 8am - 4:30pm. Pool tables, ping pong table, and air hockey are available for use. The cost of renting the center on evenings and weekends is \$50 for tribal

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Environmental

Submitted by Kathy Welch, Environmental Program Manager

Summer is here, along with it comes the heat! When spending time outside, remember to stay well hydrated, wear light color clothing and use bug spray to keep the ticks and mosquitos away.

The week of April 9-13, I traveled to Dallas for the Region 6 Tribal Caucus, RTOC Meeting, and EPA Summit. I represented the Wyandotte Nation as a member of the Regional Tribal Operations Committee.

During the week of April 16-20, our department held a tire collection event at Lost Creek Recycle Center. We collected 243 tires, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality transported the tires to a recycling facility in Sand Springs, Okla.

On Friday of that week, we also hosted our 11th Annual Environmental Festival at Heritage Acres Park. We had 45 booths, 42 booth workers, 600 total students from Wyandotte Nation Preschool and Wyandotte Public School, 48 teachers, 25 Wyandotte Nation employees and 22 general public, in attendance.

The nice temperatures in May made it bearable for department employees to conduct our day-to-day outside duties. We have been stressing the importance of employees staying well hydrated and cool as the temperatures rise. During this month, I attended several meetings pertaining to NRD (Natural Resource Damages),



and I am currently working with a technical contractor on interviewing elders about tribal cultural resources.

On June 11, Janice Wilson, Braulio Ramirez and I performed sampling of spring water and water cress on some recently purchased Wyandotte Nation Property. The department is hoping to eventually be able to conduct a project in the near future, to protect a fresh water spring located on the property.

During the week of June 11-12, our department participated in the Kids Cultural Program. On June 12, Janice and I held two classes in which we spoke to the kids about how the changing weather patterns affect their health. We also had the Peoria Tribe of Oklahoma Environmental Department bring their Fire and Tornado Safety House and talk to the kids about the importance of having a safety plan during severe weather.

June is a good month for bio-as-

sessments in the nearby creeks, as it is the right conditions for macro invertebrate and fish counting. One such assessment was performed by department June 18 at Mason Springs Valley Creek, which is located within the southern boundary of the Wyandotte Nation Historic Jurisdiction.

Services Provided

- Private Well Drinking Water Sampling
- Private Home Owners Septic Assessments
- Lost Creek Recycle Center

Department Contacts:

Kathleen Welch (Env. Department Manager) 918-678-6335
Janice Wilson (Env. Technician) 918-678-6345
Jon Quick (Recycling) 918-678-6352
Braulio Ramirez (Env. Technician) 918-678-6396

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 and they should be completed in the next quarter. 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 Right of Way was submitted for approval to the BIA. Tribal Administration met with the Engineers to begin the design planning of the Bearskin Fitness Center remodel. 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 our rental properties. Two of our four houses now have renters! Staff continue to work on remodels, leases, trust applications, utilities,

housing planning and other projects concerning natural resources and Tribal lands.

Tribal Hunting & 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 quarter. If you have an interest in hunting on Tribal property this fall please call the Commission. Some properties have been removed from the list that was available.

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

Bearskin Health Clinic Purchased/Referred Care is a federally funded program to assist eligible patients financially with specialized care that is not directly available from the Bearskin Health Clinic. Contracted facilities include, but are not limited to, Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, Integris Baptist Regional Health Center in Grove and Miami, Mercy of Joplin, Missouri, Craig General Hospital in Vinita and Freeman Health System.

ASSISTANCE DEPENDS ON ELIGIBILITY, RESIDENCE, MEDICAL PRIORITIES, ALTERNATE RESOURCES, AND AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING.

The Bearskin Health Clinic Purchased/Referred Care program also contracts with specialty care physicians, hospitals, diagnostic groups and other health care providers to treat our patients at prearranged fees.

The Purchased/Referred Care Program is funded annually with federal funds by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment, dependent upon the availability of funds.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR BEARSKIN HEALTH CLINIC PURCHASED/REFERRED CARE

1. Must be eligible for direct patient care services provided by Bearskin Health Clinic contracted facilities and/or an IHS facility. An individual is eligible if they are of Indian descent and a member of the Wyandotte Nation or Eastern Shawnee Tribe. Patient must also have

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member, and \$75 for non-tribal, with a \$25 cleaning deposit. Several dates have already been booked. If you are interested in renting, contact the housing office.

The Indian Health Service well and septic program is available on a first come first serve basis.

If you are in need of a well or septic contact our office for more information.

an established medical health record at Bearskin Health Clinic and reside within the Purchased/Referred Care Delivery Area (PRCDA).

2. Non-Indians may be eligible in these situations: A non-Indian woman who is pregnant with an eligible Indian's child through pregnancy and postpartum; A non-Indian member of an eligible Indian's household who resides within the Purchased/Referred Care service area is eligible for Purchased/Referred Care if the Medical Officer in charge determines that services are necessary to control a public health hazard or an acute infectious disease; A non-Indian under 19 years old who is an adopted child, stepchild, foster child, legal ward or orphan of an eligible Indian under specific circumstances.

3. Patient must reside within the Bearskin Health Clinic 12 county Purchased/Referred Care service area.

Out-Of-State residents are not eligible for Purchased/Referred Care funds.

PURCHASED/REFERRED CARE IS A PAYOR OF LAST RESORT! All other resources to pay for medical care, such as Medicare, Medicaid, VA, Worker's Comp, Title 19, Sooner Care, automobile insurance, and/or group health insurance, including IHS facilities must be utilized first, when applicable. Eligibility or ineligibility documentation will be required at a minimum of once annually or with each change of employment, income or referral.

The priority system helps patients have equal opportunity for specialty services and to make sure the funds are used to give the best possible benefits.

When services are not available at Bearskin Health Clinic and contracted facilities or at an IHS facility where the patient regularly receives

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Department Staff:

Kathy DeWeese- Housing Director
Valari Richards- Housing Specialist

Don Graham- Residential Maintenance Technician

Drew Lankford- Housing Facilities Technician

Levi Griffin-Project Coordinator
Paul Parker- Project Coordinator

Tribal Heritage

Submitted by Sherri Clemons,
Tribal Heritage Director

Kwe, kwe,

Well we are in the middle of summer and the constant heat is a reminder of that. Hoping for cooler temps for all the upcoming events since they take place outside. The Nation is gearing up for its big week. September will soon be here! This is a fun but busy time here getting ready for Gathering, Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow.

The Cultural Committee held their quarterly meeting and is ready for the week. Many activities have been planned. Registration will be on the website by the end of July. Please, if you are planning to attend, you will need to be sure to register in order for food count and to receive a T-shirt, so be looking out for the registration form.

Pow-Wow is Sept. 7-9. Come and enjoy the fun family atmosphere. Remember any new Indian clothes will need to be smoked off before wearing in arena.

June 11-14 was Lacrosse Camp. It was hit and miss for the first two days with other camps going on but by the end we had 20 kids playing and the game went great. The guys from Michigan are always a hit with the kids. It is always a blast.

Little Turtles Camp was the following week. This year we had a full day on Friday, which allowed for more activities.

Loretta Combes, Tribal Heritage Specialist, worked with the committee. They did language, crafts and several different projects using visual crafts with the colors and weather.

Dr. John Steckley worked on Language. Clarice Buffalo Head (Ponca Nation) came and visited with the kids on duties of dancing in the arena and ways to conduct themselves outside the arena.

It was very enlightening to the kids who are wanting to dance and the future dancers.

Johnny Web, a member of the Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard, worked with the kids in archery.

It has been busy but fun.

Hope to see all at Gathering and Pow-Wow.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Continued from Page 17

care, a physician will initiate a referral to a contract specialty provider.

The Purchased/Referred Care Specialist at the Bearskin Health Clinic prepares all referrals to submit weekly for the Purchased/Referred Care Review Committee. Referrals from the Bearskin Health Clinic are reviewed and categorized in accordance with approved medical priorities.

If a referral is denied, the patient and/or provider have 30 days from the date the denial letter is received to appeal for reconsideration. Appeal should be made in writing and mailed to:

**Attn: Kelly Friend, Administrator
Bearskin Health Clinic
One Turtle Drive
Wyandotte, OK 74370**

EMERGENCY CALL-IN PROCEDURES:

Call-ins are to be reported to the Bearskin Health Clinic in Wyandotte, Oklahoma, (918) 678-3227.

- This call should be made when a patient has an emergency and is unable to go to Bearskin Health Clinic or the nearest IHS facility. The patient must call the Purchased/Referred Care office within 72 hours after the beginning of the treatment (THIS DOES NOT GUARANTEE PAYMENT. The Purchased/Referred Care Committee will follow the medical priorities and make determination).

- Those individuals over the age of 55 years old have up to 30 days to call in emergency room visit. (THIS DOES NOT GUARANTEE PAYMENT. The Purchased/Referred Care Committee will follow the medical priori-

ties and make determination).

REFERRAL PROCESS:

1. Nurse/Provider will direct referral to the Purchased/Referred Care office.

2. Purchased/Referred Care Specialist will counsel regarding eligibility, alternate resources such as Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, VA, Workman's Comp, Sooner Care, and Title 19, and schedule the appointment, if necessary.

3. Patient will need a referral from Bearskin Health Clinic for each additional procedure, test, follow-up exams, and or hospitalization. It is the patient's responsibility to contact the Purchased/Referred Care Specialist each time!

4. If a patient schedules or re-schedules an appointment, without proper Purchased/Referred Care

Dates to Remember

Sept. 13: 20th Anniversary Celebration

Oct. 19: Health Fair

Oct. 27: Scarecrow Domestic Violence 5K

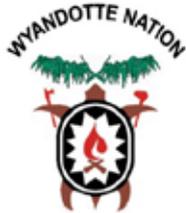
authorization, the patient will be responsible for payment.

5. If you receive a bill from the facility or physician we have scheduled you with, you have 10 days to provide Bearskin Clinic with the bill or you may be denied.

The Purchased/Referred Care Specialist at the Bearskin Health Clinic is available to help with any scheduling and/or questions regarding Purchased/Referred Care.

Medicare Part D and Diabetic Screening Event

Sponsored By:



Schedule of Events

October 19, 2018
Bearskin Healthcare Center
1 Turtle Drive
Wyandotte OK
9:00am—1:00pm
Lunch Provided

Event Details

Free Health Screenings
 Cholesterol
 Glucose
 Visual acuity
 Glaucoma screening
 Basic pulmonary functioning
 Bone density
 Blood pressure screenings

Wyandotte Nation starts Warrior Society



Wyandotte Nation Warrior Society Application

The Wyandotte Nation recognizes the sacrifice and service of all tribal citizens who served in the US Military. We invite honorably discharged Veterans including Active Duty, National Guard or Reserves to join the Wyandotte Nation Warrior Society. This society will serve to provide connections between members and inform on veteran issues.

Last Name: _____ First: _____ MI: _____

Roll Number: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Military Branch Army Navy

Air force Marines Coast Guard

Dates of Service: _____

Rank: _____

Include Copy of:

DD214 or Honorable Discharge (no originals please)

Please email or print and mail application to:

Wyandotte Nation

Heritage Department

5 Council Fire Road

Wyandotte OK 74370

Attn: Sheri Clemmons



The Wyandotte Nation is proud to announce the creation of the Wyandotte Nation Warrior Society. The goal of the society is to identify, and honor our tribal citizens who have served honorably in the Armed Forces.

Throughout our history the Wyandotte have always been fierce warriors. Chief Leaford Bearskin, who was a bomber pilot in World War II, is perhaps one of our greatest warriors. We honor his and all our veterans legacy with this society.

The application is located on our website (www.wyandotte-nation.org) and in this issue. Once completed and returned to the Tribal Heritage Department, with proof of service (either honorable discharge or DD 214 form), each veteran will receive a patch identifying membership in the warrior society.



The Wyandotte Nation Warrior Society patch each veteran will receive upon their membership into the society.

We also hope to identify citizens who have an interest in joining the nations honor guard. Who carry on the tradition of honor and respect of our Warrior history.

To join the society, fill out the Warrior Application on our website or included in this issue, and print or email to:

**Wyandotte Nation
Heritage Department
Attn: Sherri Clemmons
5 Council Fire Road
Wyandotte OK 7437**