



The Turtle Speaks

Gyah'-Wish Atak-ia

A Wyandotte Nation Publication

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Annual Fireworks Celebration!

PAGES 5

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The Wyandotte Nation
64700 E Hwy 60
Wyandotte, OK 74370

(918) 678-2297
(800) 256-2539
Fax (918) 678-2944



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- *Preschool Graduation*
- *Q&A w/ Pow-Wow Director Sherri Clemons*

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Cover Photo:
 Wyandotte Na-
 tion's Firework
 Celebration

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) 932-4778.

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!

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



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From the Chief

Billy Friend

Adapt & persevere

I have always said that the Wyandotte story was one of "adaptation and perseverance." The key to our success has always been our ability to adapt to the situations and circumstances of the time, and not only to adapt, but also persevere no matter what obstacles we encountered.

Perseverance is the quality of "sticking with it" and coming out for the better. Perseverance is one of the great qualities of the Wyandotte Nation.

To understand what I am saying you need to simply study our tribe's history to realize the importance of perseverance to all Wyandotte people. Throughout the 18th century and well into the 19th, the Wyandotte Nation endured some very tumultuous times. European contact, shifting alliances between allies, modern weaponry and changing tactics all changed our world drastically. We were constantly adapting and holding fast against the challenges.

In 1830 the Indian Removal Act was passed and despite the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling that it was unconstitutional, we eventually were removed from our homelands in 1843. We had persevered with great strength and dignity, but by 1843 we had to move our people due to an oncoming wave of migration from the East.

As we endeavored to build our communities, schools, churches, businesses and other institutions, in Kansas more pressure came from the East. Although we were in what was known as Indian country at the time

the continual expansion of railroads, land speculators and settlers tested us and once again we were removed from Kansas to Indian Territory in 1867.

By the end of the 19th century, we were being thrust into the period of allotment. The Dawes Act of 1887 which was also known as the Allotment Act was to promote the assimilation of Indians into white culture, but in actuality the Dawes Act was used strip Native Americans of their Identity, heritage, treaty rights and to steal their land. About 90,000 Indians were made landless. As good-hearted as some of the allotment proponents were, there were plenty of other people who simply looked forward to grabbing land, minerals and other property.

Once allotment had occurred, the Wyandotte people persevered through decades of suffering and want. Federal Indian policy was like a moving target, ever-changing. Things were more often worse than better. Wyandotte families really suffered even as they worked hard, and made less, to support themselves. With the slow 1960s realization that Indian sovereignty was a positive for both the tribes and the country, our situation began to change for the better. Pres. Nixon's Special Message to the Congress on Indian Affairs in 1970 was a significant event for the Wyandotte Nation, and all tribes. Our tribal sovereignty, which had always been our foundation, was now recognized as the means by which Indian tribes and people could be responsible

for their own people and their own success. If someone should determine our outcome it should be us and not the federal government.

The Wyandotte people had endured through times of poverty and want. It would have been the easy route to simply scatter and forget about our history of achievement and success. We did not disband or forget. We persevered, and that is that is the Wyandotte way.

We had our struggles as we found our way through the 1970s and 80s as the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma. But again we persevered, reformed our government and constitution, and in 1999 we officially became the Wyandotte Nation.

For the Wyandotte Nation, most of our businesses began in the 1990s and have grown to new heights. Our economic income has displayed consistent, positive growth, as we continue to diversify and look for new opportunities.

Our tribal education programs, health care programs, cultural initiatives, housing, elder programs and so much more are thriving and achieving good results.

We know there will be challenges ahead and we will continue to meet those challenges head-on. Our Wyandotte Nation history tells us we will persevere, and succeed.

When we all work together, we will persevere – and accomplish great things!

From the Second Chief | Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

History in the making

Kweh Omateru

Greetings my friends and fellow Wyandotte Citizens I think our monsoon season is finally over, I think we had more rain this year than we had the

last two years combined. Of course with all that moisture it raises the humidity and Oklahoma becomes a sauna -- oh well, we can't control Mother Nature even though sometimes we wish we

could.

The weather has slowed down some of our projects but the entrance to 640



See **SECOND CHIEF**, Page 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019

THE GATHERING

SEPT.
11-13

30TH ANNUAL POW-WOW

SEPT.
13-15

ANNUAL MEETING

SEPT.
14
10 AM

ALL EVENTS IN WYANDOTTE, OKLA. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Second Chief

Continued from Page 2

road west of the River Bend Casino has been completed and looks very good, thanks to King Excavation for doing a good job on this project. The Nation has started another project North of Twin Bridges State Park where we are at the moment putting in roads and utilities and will be selling lots for house construction to the general public and our Wyandotte Citizens if they are interested. In the near future we will be building duplexes west of the casino to fill a need for quality rental housing in the Wyandotte area.

This September we will be taking a large group of our Wyandotte citizens to Upper Sandusky, Ohio for the signing over of the Methodist Mission Church to the Wyandotte Nation, this will indeed be an historic event in the history of the Mission Church and the Wyandotte Nation. If you haven't signed up for this trip, time is probably running out so contact Kim Garcia at the Cultural Center for details. So with that said this leads up to the history lesson for this issue of our Turtle Talk newsletter.

The little church was neglected and forsaken. Year after year the acorns from the giant oaks bounced from the roof and the winds scattered the fallen leaves about the base of the building. The snows lay heavy upon the roof and covered the sandstone grave markers near the church. The rains streamed through the broken windows and tricked through the holes in the roof. No one seemed to notice. As this

**“And in the end it's
not the years in your
life that count. It's the
life in your years”**

--Abraham Lincoln

historic church deteriorated more and more, time was aided by souvenir collectors who cut away the woodwork and floor boards, and even carried away some of the grave markers to use as stepping stones or relics.

It was in 1879 that Charles H. Holmes and the Kirby Light Guard instigated a movement to restore this beautiful edifice, which by this time was in almost complete ruins, a reflection on the inhabitants of the village as it proclaimed the lack of respect shown for the memory of the braves who slept in peaceful felicity in the shadows of the church. Why this effort for restoration was not carried through is not known, but it was the Rev. N. B. C. Love, pastor of the Methodist Church, who finally got behind the movement, and the general conference of the denomination appropriated two thousand dollars toward the complete rebuilding of the structure. For many years a dilapidated eyesore, the church was restored on the original site to the same size and beauty with few changes.

After the cornerstone was laid, the work of restoration was pushed and was completed by September. The interior of the building was done from wood taken from the ruins of the original structure. This included the pulpit

and the furniture. The windows were of beautiful design, cathedral glass; and granite markings were placed on the graves of Stewart and Mononcue, and all who were buried there.

The service of rededication took place in the open air south of the church. A platform was erected for those who took part in the exercise. Many of the prominent persons of the conference together with N. B. C. Love, the church trustees, and the building committee were present and gave appropriate talks. The church and the people of Wyandott County felt just pride in the possession of this historic stone church.

In the gathering of nearly a thousand persons was only one Wyandott Indian, who must have felt her pride mingled with heartbreaking memories. Local persons called her Mother Solomon although her Christian name was Margaret Grey-Eyes Solomon, the daughter of Rev. Squire Grey-Eyes. Margaret was born the year that John Stewart had come to the Wyandott Indians at Upper Sandusky, Ohio in 1816. She was the first child enrolled in the Mission School, and had gained her education from that establishment. At the age of seventeen she had married David Young, by whom she bore eight children. Some of her children died at Upper Sandusky; the remaining ones accompanied their parents to Kansas when the Wyandotts emigrated to the West. Nine years later David Young died. In 1860 Margaret Young married John Solomon in Kansas City, Kansas, and in 1865 they returned to the beloved scenes of their childhood along the Sandusky River. John

Solomon died in 1871 and was buried south of the Old Mission Church.

At the rededication service of the church built for her tribe, the call was made for Old Mother Solomon, and she was escorted to the platform and introduced. Cheers rang out and she was asked to sing. She sang in the Wyandott language one of her favorite hymns, “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” Her voice was beautiful, but trembled from age. It was moved that a collection be taken for her to buy winter clothes. Several hats were passed around and she was given a donation of twenty-five dollars. It was less than a year from this time till Mother Solomon's “soul took it's Flight.” Her funeral was held at the Old Wyandott Mission with Rev. Gershom Lease in charge. There was a drenching rain, but the church was filled to overflowing. At the close of the services she was laid to rest a few spaces northeast of the entrance to the church. She was the last Indian to be laid to rest in the cemetery surrounding the little stone church that was built for her people.

Just think, those of you that are going on the trip in September and have never been to Upper Sandusky, will have the opportunity to visit the Old Mission church and the final resting place of the people that was mentioned in this article. This trip will be history in the making.

TIZAMEH!

TRIBAL CITIZEN & COMMUNITY NEWS



Artwork from Jean Fritts: In the top photo she painted a picture from a photograph of her mother Minnie Brumbaugh Hays and grandmother Josephine Tusinger Brumbaugh (both Wyandotte). The bottom photo is of her father Adrian Hays and grandfather Alvin Brumbaugh.

Art a passion for Fritts

Jean Fritts, a descendant of Squire John Grey Eyes, developed her passion for art at an early age. Her gift of creativity came from a love to make simple things beautiful.

Fritts paints a wide variety of paintings, including still life, landscape, animals, and portraits. She has also painted several murals for family and has filled their homes with her art. She has also shown her paintings in different art shows and sells them to the public too.

Fritts' strongest passion is oil painting, which became serious after the tragic death of her oldest son in 1987. She found some peace and healing through her painting.

Not only has she been a student of art -- taking several classes in the past -- but has also been a teacher. She taught others for many years at the senior center in Yakima, Wash., where she developed many friendships along the way.

Fritts has a twin sister, Joyce, and they are the youngest of six sisters born in Mukilteo, Wash., to Adrian and Minnie Clara (Brumbaugh) Hays. Jean's mother, Minnie, was raised in Oklahoma and attended school there, marrying Adrian (Mike), and giving birth to their first two children before moving to Washington state in 1937. The family always remembers walking into Mike and Minnie's home, which often had a pot of beans cooking on the stove. Fritts often has the same smell in her kitchen -- just like her mom.

Jean also has a heart for people and animals. She loves her family, God, and the many small dogs, especially Pomeranians, she has owned for most of her adult life.



Wyandotte Artisan Showcase

Wyandotte Nation will be hosting a month-long exhibit for all Wyandotte artisans. The opening reception and award ceremony will be on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019 at 7 pm. The exhibit will be open through Oct. 11, 2019.

Call for Entries

Contact: Kim Garcia at (918) 678-6317 or kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org

Eligibility: Member of Wyandotte Nation, Wyandot of Anderdon, Wendake, or Wyandot Nation of Kansas or a spouse of a member

Deadline for Submission: All items must be received by Sept. 10, 2019 at 4:30 pm

Submission: Please drop off all submissions to Kim Garcia at the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center or mail to Wyandotte Nation attn: Kim Garcia, 64700 E Hwy 60, Wyandotte, OK 74370. Include the following information:

- Name
- Contact Information (Address, phone #, email address)
- Age (if under 18)
- Tribal affiliation (this will be verified)
- Category (Only 1 entry per category)
- Title of Artwork
- Price (20% commission will be taken off the sold price to benefit the Wyandotte Nation Foundation) – Put NFS if for Not for Sale
- Verification if artwork will be picked up or needs to be shipped after show (if item needs to be shipped, please include instructions and money for shipping)

Categories:

- Painting and Drawing
- Photography and Mixed Media
- Sculpture
- Beadwork/Quillwork
- Basketry
- Pottery
- Textiles – Weaving, Clothing, Quilts, etc
- Jewelry
- Diverse Art Forms

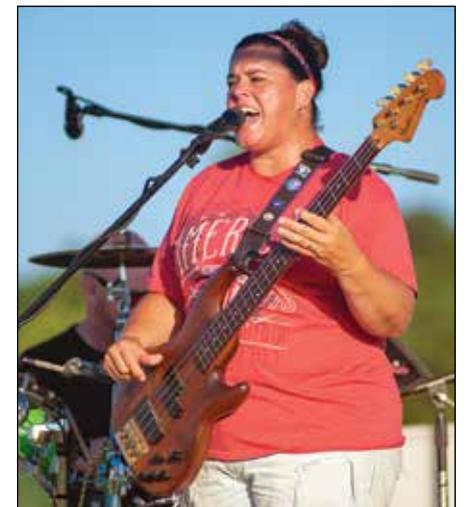
PUBLIC NOTICE

On Sept. 14, 2019 the Wyandotte Nation shall hold their Annual Meeting at the Bearskin Fitness Center Gymnasium near Wyandotte, Oklahoma. The Annual Meeting will start at 10 a.m. **Please note that citizens will be required to present their Wyandotte Nation membership/citizenship card to register for the meeting.**

The Election Committee of the Wyandotte Nation has determined that there are no contested posts for elective office within the government of the Wyandotte Nation for 2019. Therefore, it is not necessary to hold an election at the tribe's annual meeting on Saturday, September 14, 2019 per the Wyandotte Nation Constitution.

**Dee Killion, Chairman
Election Committee**

Annual Fireworks Celebration!



We hosted our annual Fireworks Celebration Tuesday, July 2 at the Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow grounds. The event featured youth fundraising and vendors (below), the Diversity Band (right) and plenty of fireworks.

Photos by William Swaim



Little Turtles continues to grow, retain youth

By WILLIAM SWAIM
WYANDOTTE NATION

The future of the Wyandotte Nation lies with its youth. And the Gathering of Little Turtles is a way for tribal youth to learn more about traditions, language and where they come from. The same you will become the stewards of preserving the Tribe's rich history while moving it forward in years to come.

"As we have learned many families for various reasons, including survival, did not share our history, family stories, and traditions since the early 1900s," said Cultural Committee member Marilyn Young. "Many families are just starting to learn they are Wyandotte. By having Little Turtles, it allows our youth to learn and their parents to learn alongside them.

"These kids are forming friendships that will continue into adulthood. Some of these kids will become our future our leaders. These kids are helping preserve our past for our future."

See **LITTLE TURTLES**, Page 7



The Gathering of Little Turtles provided Wyandotte youth an opportunity to participate in crafts, learn the language, traditions, culture and more about the Tribe's history. Animal stations were set up specifically for youth to learn about the importance of the bear, deer and raccoon to the Wyandotte Nation. The big highlight this year was the presentation of bald and golden eagles as youth got to see up close these magnificent creatures.

Photos by William Swaim



Little Turtles

Continued from Page 6

The Gathering of Little Turtles has continued to grow as 62 youth participated in the sixth installment. Including parents, grandparents and other relatives, 117 attended over the three days of the event. Young said in the first year they had about 25 youth.

“This being the sixth Gathering we are getting to see many of these kids who return year after year grow up,” she said. “They are becoming more interested in the language and learning about our history and traditions.”

Young said there are five youth who have attended every year since the first one in 2014.

“They are now at the end of grade school or starting into middle school this coming year. They have taken the same picture each year,” Young said. “It has been something watching them grow up and starting to mature.”

Young said the youth were ages 2-17, with the 9-13 year old group with the most in attendance. The youth primarily came from Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas this year but in the past, youth from California, Texas, Alabama and



Oregon have attended.

The big highlight of this year’s event was the bald and gold eagle presentation as handlers brought them so the youth could get to see them up close.

In addition to the eagles, animals, specifically, were a focus of this year’s Gathering of Little Turtles as different stations focused on bear, deer and raccoon, and what their importance is to the Wyandotte Nation.

“The past two years we have

broken down history and learning presentations into smaller groups, rotating to different stations. It keeps the kids more involved and they open up more asking more and more questions,” Young said.

With the growth of the event, it has created a challenge to the Cultural Committee. A welcome challenge.

“With each year continuing to grow in numbers it requires us to be more creative and get those thinking caps on of what to do the next year to

“This being the sixth Gathering we are getting to see many of these kids who return year after year grow up,” she said. “They are becoming more interested in the language and learning about our history and traditions”

--Marilyn Young, Wyandotte Nation Cultural Committee

make it better to keep them coming back wanting more,” Young said. “As Little Turtles grows, the hope is to add more days, but we will also need more instructors, volunteers and help with planning.”

The Cultural Committee also hosts a Lacrosse Camp each year leading into the Gathering of Little Turtles (see pictures below).



WILLIAM SWAIM/WYANDOTTE NATION

The Cultural Committee hosted a Lacrosse Camp leading into the Gathering of Little Turtles. Players from Missouri State are helping put on the camp.

Our little graduates

The Wyandotte Nation Preschool graduation was held Monday evening, May 13, at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center.

The preschoolers were treated to a graduation ceremony, a look back at their school year, as well as each class performing songs to highlight the evening before receiving their "diplomas" and awards.



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

NATIVE AMERICAN HERBAL TEA

CHIEF'S DELIGHT

WWW.WYANDOTTE-NATION.ORG / ONLINE-GIFT-STORE /

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.
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Secure:

- When shopping online you will never have to give your credit card number to us.
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30th Annual Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow

Q&A with Sherri Clemons, Tribal Heritage Director

BY WILLIAM SWAIM
WYANDOTTE NATION

Anything new to share with the 30th anniversary of the Pow-Wow?

We will be paying out more prize money, total of \$50,000.

How many years have you been involved in the Pow-Wow (and how many in charge of it)?



I have been going to the Pow-Wow for many years, but have been in charge for 20 years.

What are some of the biggest changes you have seen over the past 30 years?

Location changed, in order for the casino to be built, was not planned on, but the Peoria Tribe gave us permission to use their grounds. It is on the Pow-Wow Trail, which means dancers plan to attend every year.

The arena was named after your father, what does that mean to you?

It is an honor for my family. He loved the Pow-Wow and put in a lot of work and time on the grounds, so for



the Tribe to honor our family in this way is just an amazing gift.

What is the dance you most enjoy watching?

I really like Men's Northern Traditional. The dancers wear the eagle feather bustles and they look like eagles dancing around in the arena. It's so amazing to watch them.

What is the biggest hurdle(s) you have faced in putting on the Pow-Wow over all these years?

Weather is always the biggest. Praying for no rain starts early!

You tend to use the same arena director, head judge, and master of ceremonies every year, how did the relationship with those three develop?

The Committee looks for strong respected people in the Pow-Wow world, a great working relationship has developed with them and they work very well together.

What goes into the selection of not only the three aforementioned, but also to Head Man, Head Lady, and Head Gourd Dancers, as well as the Singers?

We look for people who are respected in their communities and among other dancers.

What is the importance of the Pow-Wow to the Wyandotte Nation?

Pow-Wows are fun to go and dance, visit, eat, etc. It is good for other communities to come and enjoy Wyandotte's hospitality. Pow-Wows may not be traditional in our past, but they are now.

— See the flyer in this issue for more details on the 30th Annual Pow-Wow Sept. 13-15 —



(Top) Grand Entry during sunset at the 28th Annual Pow-Wow. (Above left) Sherri Clemons with former Wyandotte Nation Princess Emily Wills. (Above middle) An aerial view of the Pow-Wow grounds when it was located near where the River Bend Casino & Hotel stands now. (Top right) Wyandotte tribal citizen and fancy dancer Caleb Garcia competes near the entrance of the arena.

30th Annual
WYANDOTTE POW-WOW

September 13-15, 2019

\$50,000



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.



18th 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

Damian Blackfox
Neil Lawhead
Geneva Hamilton
Kenny Brown
Wyandotte Honor Guard
Dude Blalock
Jay Blalock
Steve Kinder
Redland
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 13
Evening

Women's Jingle
Jr. Girl's Cloth
Men's Grass
Jr. Boy's Straight
Men's Golden Age

49 Contest - Jay Blalock

Saturday, September 14
Afternoon

Jr. Boy's Grass
Women's Cloth
Jr. Girls Fancy Shawl
Men's Straight

Saturday, September 14
Evening

Jr. Girl's Jingle
Men's Fancy
Jr. Boy's Traditional
Women's Buckskin
Women's Golden Age

Stomp Dance - Bruce Martin

Sunday, September 15
Afternoon

Women's Fancy Shawl
Men's Traditional
Jr. Girl's Buckskin
Jr. Boy's Fancy
Tiny Tots

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)

NEWS & NOTES

We're back on YouTube

We are launching a new YouTube channel where we will post Q&A's, informational, events, crafts videos and much more. If you were subscribed to the old channel, please visit and subscribe to the new channel. Hit the notification tab to stay in the know when we post videos. When we have enough subscribers we will change to a custom site link, until then, find us at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2VKL4ozz_FrIp0k15F99kg.



We will also post the site on our Facebook page, visit www.facebook.com/WyandotteNation.

Our first posts will be Generation Wyandotte Q&A series where tribal citizen and Wyandotte Nation intern Addison Butcher sat down to talk with Chief Billy Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Jr. Check them out!

The videos will mostly be used as educational and informational. If there is anything anybody would like to see, please let us know.

For more information, please contact Kim Garcia at (918) 678-6317 or at kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org, or William Swaim at (918) 932-4778 or wswaim@wtok.org.

Employee of the Year

We are pleased to announce that Braulio Ramirez was recently named 'Employee of the Year' by his co-workers. Braulio has been employed by the Tribe since March 2010. He began his employment in the Maintenance Department at the Casino and in 2010 transferred to the Maintenance Department of the Tribe. He has worked the last two years in the Environmental Department.



Braulio was chosen for his strong work ethic, dependability, and loyalty to the Wyandotte Nation. He always has a smile on his face and is a team player, helping out wherever he is needed. Congratulations Braulio! We appreciate all of the hard work you do to make the Wyandotte Nation a success.

Nesvold honored on Memorial Day

The Wyandotte Nation honored Theodore (Ted) J. Nesvold at the Wyandotte Indian Cemetery on Memorial Day. Ted served his country in the United States Air Force from 1955 to 1958. He served as the Commander of the Wyandotte Nation Honor Guard for several years. He passed away in April. Chief Billy Friend said this about Ted: "I will remember Ted as a mentor to me and many others, but most of all I will remember him as my friend."



Seneca School Reunion

The Seneca Indian School Alumni Reunion took place June 8 at the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center & Museum. The school was located where the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center stands today.

Former students and faculty shared stories, food and remembered those who had passed by tossing rocks into Lost Creek. The names were written on rice paper, which dissolves in the water, and wrapped around rocks.

The Wyandotte Nation also put up a Seneca Indian School display in the museum with pictures, mainly those from a visit by Robert F. Kennedy to the Indian School Feb. 19, 1968. Following the day's events, a story circle was held to discuss stories and memories from the school.

The school operated from 1872 to 1980.



**Wyandotte Tribal/Municipal
Police Department**

CHILI COOK-OFF

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2019 **1ST ANNUAL**
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
**AT THE ARTIE NESVOLD
COMMUNITY BUILDING**
(64700 E HWY 60, WYANDOTTE, OK)

Cake Walk

**ADMISSION WILL BE \$5.00 PER
PERSON CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS
OLD ARE FREE.**

**Dessert
Auction**

**One of the HOTTEST
Events of the Year!**
**Whether you want to
Cook & Compete . . . or just
Want to Eat, you're bound to
have a whole lotta FUN!**

SILENT AUCTION

COME ON DOWN AND JOIN US!

CHECKOUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION
 WYANDOTTE NATION POLICE DEPARTMENT
 OR CALL PAT WILSON AT 918-678-6364
 PROCEEDS GOES TO THE "SHOP WITH A COP" PROGRAM

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Human Resources

Submitted by Deana Howard, HR Director

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department would like to welcome back Maddi Harnar as a full-time Certified Teacher, as well as welcome Veronica Griner as a Substitute, and Krisha Arnall to her new position as Administrative Assistant.



HARNAR

Maddi has her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from MSSU. She enjoys reading and shopping in her spare time. Maddi likes hanging out and spending time with her family. Maddi is a lifetime local resident of the Seneca and Miami area. We are happy to have Maddi rejoin our team.

Veronica is a Wyandotte tribal citizen. She enjoys spending time with her husband and two boys. Veronica is from Wyandotte and has been around kids her whole life. She loves spending time with her family and friends and having big family get-togethers. In her spare time she enjoys hunting, fishing, and anything outdoors.



GRINER

We are pleased to have Veronica join our team and wish her much success in her new position.

Krisha graduated from Picher High School, and attended Labette Community College where she played softball. She enjoys working out, puzzles, softball, basketball and shopping in her spare time. Krisha also loves spending time with her two kids, friends and family, being outdoors in the summer and going on fun adventures.



ARNAIL

We are happy to have Krisha on our team.

The Bearskin Fitness Center is very happy to welcome tribal citizen Isaac



MATTHEWS

Matthews and tribal citizen Candace Dees.

Isaac will serve as a Fitness Front Desk Assistant. In his spare time he enjoys hanging out with his friends. He likes playing and watching sports. We are very fortunate to have Isaac on our team and wish him much success in this position.



DEES

Candace will serve as the Fitness Childcare Provider. Candace is a student at NEO for Physical Education. In her spare time she enjoys spending time hunting, fishing,

kayaking, playing coed softball, coaching youth basketball, and volunteering at her church. Candace has over 13 years of experience in childcare. We are very fortunate to have Candace on our team and wish her much success in this new position.

The Wyandotte Nation Police Department is proud to welcome Travis Goodman. Travis has experience with various Law Enforcement Agencies and has worked as a full-time Law Enforcement for 15 years, including six years as a K9 Handler. Travis enjoys spending time with his family, and in his spare time enjoys fishing and hunting. We are very fortunate to have Travis and wish him much success in his new position.



GOODMAN

The Accounting Department is very happy to welcome Jordan Harrison back. Jordan will serve as the substitute Accounts Receivable Specialist and will be responsible for accounts receivable and other accounting duties for Wyandotte Nation.



HARRISON

Jordan has a finance degree and prior experience with accounts receivable. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her husband and three kids, and is very active in her church. She loves to craft and vacation. We are very fortunate to have Jordan on our team and wish her much success in her new position.

Family Services

Submitted by Dana Butterfield, Family Services Director

Our favorite time of year is almost here – Pow-Wow time! The Family Services staff also enjoy getting to visit with old friends, make new ones and celebrating our wonderful history and heritage with our fellow tribal citizens at the annual Gathering. If you're visiting Wyandotte during the Gathering or Pow-Wow be sure to stop by our office and say "hello" to us and inquire about programs that might be available to you and/or your family.

As mandated by the Constitution, the Annual Meeting will be Saturday, Sept. 14 at 10 am in the gymnasium of the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center. There will NOT be an election this year at the meeting. However, citizens will still be required to show their 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 register for the meeting 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 notice elsewhere in the newsletter for additional details. If you are in need of a tribal card please call the office 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 staff would like to remind citizens that the school supply program is available to enrolled children nationwide. Every child will be able to receive

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

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.

July 1st the Senior Energy program became available to citizens nationwide who are age 55 and older. This benefit pays \$100, one time in the summer months and one time in the winter months, directly to your energy provider. We are already receiving several applications from outside of the four-state area and look forward to working with our elders from across the country. Since this program expansion is new, it may take some additional time to process applications. Please be patient with us and we will make payments to your providers as quickly as possible.

The Low Income Heat Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) began July 1 and will be available on a first come, first serve basis to those living in the state of Oklahoma. Eligible families have the choice to apply for LIHEAP either through the state of Oklahoma or with the tribe. Eligible households may only use LIHEAP from one entity per year during the winter and again during the summer. Please call Family Services for details.

The Indian Child Welfare program is housed within the Family Services Department. Currently, Wyandotte Nation social workers manage approximately 35 cases across the country where either the state is involved with

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a Wyandotte family or where there are prevention services needed to provide for safety and security of children in their homes. The number of Native American children in foster care in the year 2017 in the United States was 10,529, according to The Children's Bureau. This number does not count the number of children in tribal custody that are not included in this report. What does this mean for tribal families? There is a great need for tribal foster

homes. The Indian Child Welfare Act states that tribal children should be placed in tribal foster homes whenever possible. Children deserve to live in a home that understands their heritage and that will keep them connected to their tribe. The Wyandotte Nation Indian Child Welfare Program has been successful in certifying a small number of foster homes across the Nation, but more are needed. If you would like more information on how to become a foster or adoptive home, please call the Family Services Department.

Another program offered through this department is the Family Violence Prevention Program (FVPP). This program assists victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and human trafficking. In the United States, violence against indigenous women has reached unprecedented levels on tribal lands and in Alaska Native villages. More than 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence, and more than 1 in 2 have experienced sexual violence. Though available data is limited, the number of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Native women and the lack of a diligent and adequate federal response is extremely alarming to indigenous women, tribal governments, and communities. On some reservations, indigenous women are murdered at more than 10 times the national average. Through the FVPP program victims/survivors, within a 25-mile radius of the Wyandotte Nation headquarters, are offered a broad array of services such as; assistance with protective orders, court accompaniment, counseling, shelter services, and other basic needs. Services are provided to both native and non-native victims/survivors equally. Please reach out to one of our Advocates if you are in need of this service. They are available 24/7.

For our tribal citizens who reside in Oklahoma and have their vehicles tagged through the tribe, we want to make sure you are aware of the recent change in Oklahoma law that states registrations must be kept in the vehicle. Staff have always encouraged our tribal citizens to keep these in the vehicle, so it shouldn't be too much of an issue. However, if you have misplaced your registration and require a replacement feel free to contact us and we'll help you with that process.

Other service programs available through the Family Services Department include: LIHEAP; Elder's Assistance, Extracurricular Expense; High School Jr/Sr Benefit; Fuel Assistance; Child Safety Seat Program; Tribal Tag Program; Supplemental Health (aka Benny card); Burial Assistance; and Winter Clothing. 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 guidelines and applications can be found on the tribe's website <http://www.wyandotte-nation.org/community/>

family-services/ or by calling the office.

As always, it is a great pleasure for us to be able to service the citizens of the Wyandotte Nation. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have a need and we will do our best to assist you.

Family Services Staff:

Dana Butterfield, Director, (918) 678-6319

Tara Gragg, ICW Supervisor, (918) 678-6355

Leeanna Radabaugh, Family Services Assistant, (918) 678-6329

Tiffany Webb, ICW Social Worker, (918) 678-6353

Lisa Arnold DV Advocate/Educator, (918) 678-6324

Education

Submitted by Cristi Hudson, Education Director

Kweh,

Summer is in the air and fall semester will be here before we know it. If you have enrolled for the fall semester and have not applied for a Wyandotte Nation or WIOA scholarship, please contact us and we will get you the appropriate application to get the process started. Current scholarship participants need to supply your updated transcript that will reflect your spring grades and fall schedule to the Education Department if you have not already done so.

Once again, I would like to remind the scholarship recipients of a few Wyandotte Nation Scholarship guidelines:

- Undergraduate scholarships are limited to eight (8) semesters.
- Students will be placed on probation for failure to complete 12 hours or more with a minimum of a 2.0 GPA.
- Students will be allowed one probationary semester during the programs duration.
- Deadline for spring submission is Feb. 15.
- Deadline for fall submission is May 1.

To obtain any of the scholarships that Wyandotte Nation offers, email your request or any questions that you may have to Evan Hotulke, our Education Specialist at ehotulke@wyandotte-nation.org; or you can request one by calling his office at (918) 678-6331.

The last day For Wyandotte Na-

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.

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. 14

Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting: Sept. 14

(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.

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tion's summer program will by Aug. 9. The first day of preschool will be Aug. 15. We currently have all positions full for the preschool and toddler program. However, we will still accept applications for enrollment into either program and will place your child on a waiting list. You can contact Lindsay Cooper for an application at lcooper@wyandotte-nation.org or you can call her at (918) 678-3267.

The Wyandotte Nation Library has a computer lab available for the community's use. There is also a great amount of books and movies from several different genres for you to check out. Our librarian, Deb Haynes has been busy this summer with a reading program for our summer kids. The kids earn special prizes, t-shirts, and treats for achieving different reading stages.

The Child Care and Development Fund program is currently accepting applications for childcare assistance. If you are in need of childcare assistance and have not applied, we would be happy to assist in getting an application to you. Parents must be working or attending school to apply. To be eligible for the Wyandotte Nation CCDF program, you must reside within a 100-mile radius of our tribal headquarters. To request and application, or if you have any questions, you can email Sami Butterfield, our Child Care Coordinator, at sbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org; or you can call her office at (918) 678-6330.

If you are currently receiving childcare assistance from Wyandotte Nation, recertification will be happening during the month of September. We will mail out a letter during the month of August to let you know what documents are needed along with an updated application.

We are available to assist you with the application process in any of our programs and we look forward to working with you soon.

Education Department Staff:

Cristi Hudson – Education Director, (918) 678-6334 or chudson@wyandotte-nation.org

Sami Butterfield – Childcare Coordinator – CCDF, (918) 678-6330 or sbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org

Lindsay Cooper – Early Childhood Coordination, (918) 678-3267 or lcooper@wyandotte-nation.org

Evan Hotulke – Education Specialist, (918) 678-6331 or ehotulke@wyandotte-nation.org

Submitted by Kathy DeWeese, Housing Director

The Wyandotte Nation Housing Department was established in 1996. Since that time, over 100 homes have been provided for Tribal families. There is still a great need for rental and homeownership units. This is a challenge, since our funding is once again being reduced. Our mission is to provide decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing for our Tribal families to promote the highest possible quality of life. The Nation is and will continue to seek opportunities to provide for growth in meeting this challenge. If you are interested in housing, please submit an application. The applications are available in our office, as well as on the Wyandotte Nation online site. Applicants must qualify by federal income guidelines.

Housing

The Department offers Down Payment Assistance for those looking to purchase a home within a 50-mile radius of our tribal headquarters. You must be a first-time home buyer and qualify for a conventional loan. Federal income guidelines apply. This is a first come, first serve program.

If you are a college student receiving a scholarship through the Education Department, and living in the dorms or renting for the purpose of attending school, contact our office for an application for rental assistance.

If you have not had the opportunity to visit the Heritage Acres Park, we invite you to do so. A few new features have been added. There are two pavilions available for use, as well as a few individual picnic tables. The Splash pad is free and open to the public. The hours are 9 am - 9 pm, and will be open until Sept. 16.

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, and live within our Oklahoma service area, contact our office for more information. There are no income guidelines for this program.

If you have questions about any of our programs, contact our office at (918) 678-6339, or (918) 678-6336.

Housing 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

Elder Services

Submitted by Brenda House, Elder Services Director

We are looking forward to seeing everyone again at the Gathering and the Pow-Wow in September.

We will hold our Annual Picnic at the Park Sept. 26 at the Twin Bridges State Park. Good Shepherd Hospice will be cooking burgers and the area tribes will be bringing the sides. We will have door prizes and the amazing Duke Mason will be providing the entertainment.

Oct. 25 will be our annual Health Fair at the Bearskin Health and Wellness Center. The Lions Club will have their mobile unit to check blood pressure, blood sugar, pulmonary lung function, eye screening, bone density, and other screenings. Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging will have information about Medicare Part D. There will be many booths set up with other information. Duke Mason will be performing at this event as well. There will be many door prizes and two lucky participants will go home with a brand new recliner.

If anyone is in need of food, we collaborate with area tribes and the Tulsa Foodbank to host a Food Distribution at the Highwinds Casino parking lot on

the third Thursday of each month from 11 am to Noon. Each Title VI program has tickets to distribute to those in need. Participants will need to get their tickets prior to the distribution.

CAREGIVER

The Caregiver Support Group is normally the first Thursday of each month in the Artie Nesvold Community Center safe room beginning at 10:30 am. The August meeting will occur at 9:30 am. We will have a presentation from the Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative. Other Tribal Caregiver Support Groups will be joining us. This group is for all current and former caregivers. It is also for Grandparents raising grandchildren.

It is always a pleasure serving the Wyandotte Nation citizens. Please feel free to call or come by and visit us anytime.

Elders Services 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

Planning & Natural Resources

Submitted by Christen Lee, Environmental & Planning Director

The Department is currently working on several construction projects for the Wyandotte Nation. The Tribal road and Storm water improvement on Rd 645 next to the casino were completed June 30. The waterline project on State line road continues. Currently, we are waiting on BIA to approve the Rights-of-Way for one property. Our Engineer is working with the Rural Water District (RWD) on the designs. The waterline will be the property of the RWD #5 once our construction is complete.

The Bearskin Fitness Center remodel began in May and is still in progress. This will include several internal changes, including a new pro shop, redesign of the locker rooms, a new classroom and a new kitchen area in the gym.

The Tribe has two housing projects on 137 Rd. Construction was awarded in April and the infrastructure for Wyandotte Ridge began in May. The Tribe is also working on building rental units

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TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Important Numbers

Police Department

Glenn Johnston (918) 678-6365
gjohnston@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

Cristi Hudson (918) 678-6334
chudson@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

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

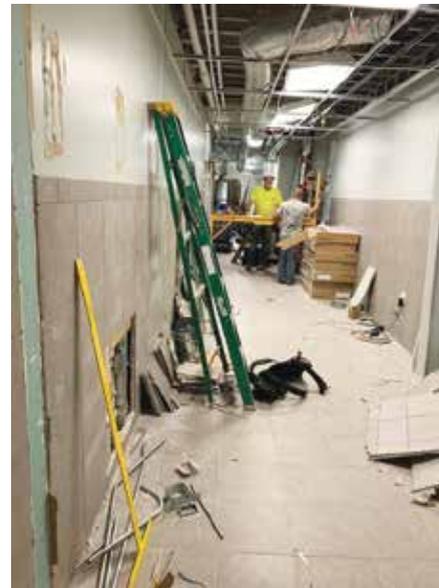
Donna Spaulding (918) 678-3258
dspaulding@wyandotte-nation.org

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on the 35 acres next to the casino. The Environmental documents were submitted to BIA for this project in late June. Our next project that is in the planning stages is a new Administration building that will be located near the Bearskin Clinic and Fitness Center.



Tribal road and culvert project



Demo of gym bathroom that will be converted to storage



Bearskin Fitness Center Remodel (development of new classroom)



Wyandotte Ridge housing property development on 137 Rd.

The department continues to work on surveying the Pow-Wow grounds and collecting other information to put the fee to trust package together to submit to BIA. The Bureau of Land Management has visited on site with our surveyor. Staff continue to update all trust land leases for the New Year. The Properties Manager continues to update the rental houses and take care of the other tribal properties. The department issued several hunting permits and access letters to citizens who wanted to fish on Tribal properties. The department also maintains several houses as rental properties for the Tribe.

Environmental

Submitted by Kathy Welch, Environmental Program Manager

APRIL

The old saying says "April showers bring May flowers," well this year it brought rain, rain and more rain. Because of the large amounts of rain, we were unable to get our quarterly heavy metals, nutrient and bacteria samples from our eight monthly monitoring sites on the local streams and rivers. The heavy rains and flooding also did damage to our continuous EXO monitor on Sycamore Creek, behind the tribal pow-wow grounds. But, the rains didn't dampen our other duties within the office though, and we had several meetings and events that took place.

On April 2-4, Christen Lee attended the EPA Region 6 Tribal Caucus and RTOC Meetings in Dallas. Also during that week, Janice Wilson and Braulio Ramirez attended the Oklahoma Clean Lakes and Water Conference in Stillwater, Okla.

I had an information booth in Vinita,

Okla., Aug. 11, at the Oklahoma Conservation Commissions Workshop for Craig and Ottawa County Farmers.

On April 25, our department hosted



the 12th Annual Environmental Festival. The weather was perfect and we had great attendance. There were nine tribal and six state/local booths, with a total of 539 students and 325 teachers and aides from Wyandotte Public Schools, and eight from the general public visiting the booths. We had 16 Wyandotte Nation employees who volunteered and helped us with various duties throughout the day. Each year this event just keeps getting better and better.



Also, during the week of April 22-25, the Lost Creek Recycle Center held a tire collection event. We collected a total of 665 tires. By holding this event, it reduces the amount of tires that end up in dumps, roadside ditches or in the local waterbodies.

On April 26, Janice and Braulio had an information booth at the Cherokee Nation Environmental Festival.



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TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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MAY

May was much like April weather wise. Due to heavy rains and flooding, we were unable to access our eight water sampling sites on the area creeks and streams for our monthly sampling.



On May 30, our department hosted a Rain Barrel Education Class. We had 14 attendees and each household represented received a free rain barrel.



JUNE

Here we are in June and the heavy rains kept coming, and for a third straight month, the eight monthly sampling sites were inaccessible due to heavy rains and flooding. We are hoping the weather will cooperate with us from here on out.

On June 5 our department participated in the Kids Cultural Program, along with Family Services and Bearskin Health Center. The theme was the importance of the 'Three Sisters' to Wy-



andotte Nation. Our department talked about healthy microbes in the soil, and each student received a corn, black turtle bean, and a butternut squash plant to take and plant at their homes.

On June 18–21, I attended the Tar Creek Trustee Council Next Steps Meeting, which dealt with logistics of various natural resource restoration projects – it will be implemented within NE Oklahoma.

On June 21, staff from our department participated in the Cultural Week by giving an education event to the "Little Turtles." Staff talked to the children about the significance of the turtle to the Wyandotte Nation. Each child then made their own turtle coin purse.



On June 26, our department hosted an Integrated Community Pest and Pesticides Meeting. A representative from EPA Region 6 came and talked with the Environmental Department Staff, Wyandotte Nation Elders Program Staff, and staff from three other area tribes about the importance of having an Integrated Community Pest and Pesticides Plan in place.

Upcoming events

- July 16–17, Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting in Santa Fe.
- July 22–25, Intra Tribal Environmental Coalition Conference, Tulsa.
- Aug. 22, Wyandotte Nation Non Point Source Workshop, River Bend Hotel Sandusky Room.

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
Braulio Ramirez (Env. Technician II), (918) 678-6396
Jon Quick (Recycling), (918) 678-6352

Tribal Police Department

Submitted by Glenn Johnston, Chief of Police

Lifetime Achievement Award

The Oklahoma D.A.R.E. Officers Association (O.D.O.A.) "Lifetime Achievement Award" is an award that began in 2011. It was designed to recognize people that have contributed a significant amount of time and expertise to Oklahoma D.A.R.E. Each year, the recipient is invited to our O.D.O.A. conference and presented with the award. They receive a trophy, a certificate as well as a night's stay at the hotel where the conference is being held.



This year, the O.D.O.A. Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Officer Ken Brodrick from the Wyandotte Nation Police Department. Officer Brodrick was D.A.R.E. certified in 1995. He became a certified D.A.R.E. mentor in 1996 and joined the Oklahoma D.A.R.E. training staff. He now holds the position of Oklahoma D.A.R.E. coordinator.

New Investigator

We would like to congratulate Investigator Tracy Reynolds on his promotion. He has been in law enforcement for the past 25 years. He has worked as a jailer, patrol deputy and worked with the gang task force in Texas. Tracy left there as a Detective Sergeant. After moving to Arkansas, Tracy worked three years as a School Resource Officer with the Pea Ridge Police Department. Tracy started out as patrolman with the Wyandotte Nation Police Department in September 2018 and recently was promoted to Investigator.



C.L.E.E.T. Graduate

We would like to congratulate Denton Ward for graduation from C.L.E.E.T. (Council on Law Enforcement and Training). Denton graduated from Wyandotte High School in 2016 and has interned during the summer for the Wyandotte Nation Police Department since he was 15 years of age. Denton worked as a jailer for the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office for one year prior to being hired in as a full-time Wyandotte Nation Police Officer.

"1st Annual Chili Cook-off"

WHO: Put together your own "chili team" and see who will be voted the best of the best! (Teams are required to make two gallons of chili)

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019

WHERE: Artie Nesvold Community Building (64700 East Highway 60, Wyandotte, Okla.)

\$5 admission to sample all the chili. (children under 5 years of age are free). There will be a silent auction/ dessert auction and a cake walk. Check out our FaceBook page for more information, or call Pat Wilson at (918) 678-6364. Proceeds go to the "Shop With A Cop" program.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Health

—Submitted by Kelly Friend,
Director of Health Services

Obstructive Sleep Apnea

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

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 an established medical health record and be an active patient at Bearskin Health Clinic and reside within the Contract Health Service Delivery Area (CHSDA).

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 CHS service area is eligible for CHS if the Medical Officer in charge determines that services are necessary to control a public health hazard or an acute infectious disease;

3. Patient must reside within the Bearskin Health Clinic 12 county CHS service area within Oklahoma.

Out-Of-State residents are not eligible for assistance.

Bearskin Healthcare IS A PAYOR OF LAST RESORT! All other resources to pay for medical care, such as Medicare, Medicaid, VA, Worker's Comp, Healthcare Exchange, Title 19, Sooner Care, automobile insurance, and/or group health insurance, including IHS facilities must be utilized first, when applicable. Residents will be required to show proof of denial through alternate resources.

Each patient must meet the federal criteria listed, as well as produce documentation on proof of residency.

Documents required to be presented for service include:

- Social Security Card
- Oklahoma Driver's License or Oklahoma State issued Identification Card
- Tribal Membership Card
- Residency Requirements (3 needed):
 - Utility Bill in patient's name with physical address – lease agreement, gas, electric

For individuals that do not have an utility bill or lease in their name and reside with other individuals

1. Previous years taxes (front page verifying state filed)
2. Land Tax statement
3. Recent School Records

4. Notarized affidavit verifying residence
5. Mortgage payment

Policy

Bearskin Healthcare considers the diagnosis and treatment of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) in adults aged 18 and older medically necessary according to the criteria outlined below.

DIAGNOSIS

Bearskin Healthcare considers diagnosis from attended full-channel nocturnal polysomnography (NPSG) performed in a healthcare facility, unattended (home) sleep studies and attended full-channel nocturnal polysomnography testing medically necessary for diagnosis in patients with symptoms suggestive of obstructive sleep apnea when used as part of a comprehensive sleep evaluation with adequate follow-up, and patient has one or more of the following indications:

A. Patient has at least one of the following comorbid medical conditions that degrade the accuracy of portable monitoring:

1. moderate to severe pulmonary disease (for example, COPD or asthma)
2. neuromuscular disease (e.g., Parkinson's disease, spina bifida, myotonic dystrophy, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis)
3. stroke with residual respiratory effects
4. epilepsy
5. congestive heart failure
6. chronic opioid medication use
7. super obesity (BMI greater than 40)

B. Member has one or more of the following comorbid sleep disorders:

1. periodic limb movement disorder (involuntary, jerking movements of the legs during sleep causing excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS) due to sleep fragmentation)
2. parasomnias that are unusual or atypical because of the individual's age at onset, the time, duration or frequency of occurrence of the behavior including, but not limited to: nocturnal seizures, psychogenic dissociative states, REM sleep behavior disorder, sleep talking and/or confusional arousals
3. severe insomnia
4. narcolepsy
5. central sleep apnea or complex sleep apnea

Treatment of snoring alone, without significant OSA, is not considered medically necessary.

C. DEVICES

With proper documentation and an order for a device, Bearskin Healthcare will cover various devices. Bearskin

Healthcare is a payor of last resort. Insurance and alternative resources must be utilized first. Devices may include:

1. Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)
2. Auto Positive Airway Pressure (APAP)
3. Bi-Flex Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP)

D. REPLACEMENT OF DEVICES

Replacement of positive airway pressure devices is considered medically necessary at the end of their 5-year reasonable useful lifetime (RUL).

*****Replacement needed due to misuse or abuse are not covered.**

E. ACCESSORIES AND SUPPLIES

The following accessories and supplies are considered medically necessary for members who meet criteria for positive airway pressure devices:

1. Chinstrap
2. Disposable or non-disposable filters
3. Full face mask with positive airway pressure device
4. Headgear
5. Heated or non-heated humidifier
6. Nasal interface (mask or cannula type) for positive airway pressure device
7. Oral interface for positive airway pressure device
8. Replacement cushions and pillows for nasal application device
9. **Replacement interface for full face mask**
10. **Tubing for heated or non-heated humidifier.**

Footnotes* A nasal interface (mask or cannula type) may be used with a positive airway pressure device, with or without a head strap as an alternative to a full-face mask. However, upgraded facemask is considered medically necessary only if there is documentation that the member needs a different mask because he/she cannot maintain CPAP pressures or that in order to get the pressure the mask needs to be so tight as to generate pressure sores.

Supplies will be provided per your insurance guidelines. If patient has no insurance, the Medicare policy and guidelines will be followed for treatment of obstructive sleep apnea and supplies needed.

F. EXCLUSIONS

*****The following positive airway pressure supplies are considered not medically necessary convenience items:**

- Positive airway pressure bed pillows
- Batteries for positive airway pressure devices
- DC adapters for positive airway pressure devices
- SoClean/Cleaning devices

FREE TICK TESTING

Oklahoma physicians are building a database of the germs/diseases carried by Oklahoma ticks. In that effort, Bearskin Healthcare has elected to participate in this program and is offering free testing for the next year of any Oklahoma tick. This includes ticks removed from humans or animals.

If you remove a tick from your body or animal and want to have it analysed, bring it to the clinic, and we will take care of the necessary paperwork and send it to the lab for you. If you desire the results, an email or cell phone number is necessary. This will ensure that the results will be emailed or texted directly to you by the lab. All information is confidential.

You do not need to know what species of tick you have; the lab will make that determination. The study is for all species of ticks.

Negative results help the database as much as positive ones. You should not panic if the tick you have comes back with a positive result. Even though you sent it in and it tests positive for a disease (say Lyme's, or Rocky Mountain spotted fever), that does not necessarily mean that you the disease.

Place your tick in a sealed plastic baggie (such as a sandwich baggie) and seal with the Ziploc or use tape to seal the opening. The tick may be dead or alive.

Please include the following information with the tick when you bring it to the clinic:

- Name of individual tick was found on or species of animal
- Birthdate of individual submitting species
- Address, email or mobile phone number
- Estimate of how long the tick was attached, if known
- Part of the body it was attached to and if you had any rash around the bite (of course this would not apply to ticks removed from pets).

Again, all information is confidential and there is no charge for the testing (it is being paid for by the Oklahoma State Medical Association).

Thank you.

Doug Cox M.D.

PURCHASED/REFERRED CARE

BACKGROUND

In January 2014, the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2014 renamed the Contract Health Services program to the Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) program. All policies and practices remain the same.

The PRC Program is integral to providing comprehensive health care services to American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN). The IHS health system delivers care through direct care services provided in IHS, tribal, and urban (I/T/U) health facilities (e.g., hospitals, clinics) and through PRC services provided by non-IHS providers. The general purpose of PRC is for IHS and tribal facilities to purchase services from private health care providers in situations where: 1) no IHS or tribal direct care facility exists; 2) the existing direct care element is incapable of providing required emergency and/or specialty care; 3) utilization in the direct care element exceeds existing staffing; and 4) supplementation of alternate resources (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance) is required to provide comprehensive health care to eligible AI/AN.

The combination of an increasing AI/AN population, limited funding, medical inflation, and limited competitive pricing and options requires strict adherence to program guidelines to ensure the most effective use of PRC resources. These guidelines apply to qualifying factors such as medical priorities of care and eligibility requirements that are more stringent than those for IHS direct care.

STATUS

The IHS is the payer of last resort and requires patients to exhaust all health care resources available to them from private insurance, state health programs, and other federal programs before the PRC program can provide payment. The PRC program continues to negotiate contracts with providers to ensure competitive pricing for services provided, in spite of the limited number of providers available in many rural communities.



OPTIONS/PLANS

The IHS continues to explore alternatives to stretch limited resources for the PRC program through regulations and the Affordable Care Act Marketplace. In 2007, the PRC program exercised an option under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 which requires Medicare participating hospitals that provide inpatient hospital services to accept Medicare-like rates (MLR) as payment in full when providing services under a PRC authorized referral. Currently, the PRC program is pursuing an expansion of the MLR regulations to include PRC rates for outpatient non-hospital based services which will enable I/T/U programs to stretch their resources and provide more services purchased from private providers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For referral to the appropriate spokesperson, contact the IHS Public Affairs Staff at 301-443-3593.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Tribal Heritage

*Submitted by Sherri Clemons,
Tribal Heritage Director*

Kwe Kwe, (hello)

It has been a busy summer and about to get busier.

Our annual Lacrosse camp saw some new coaches this year. In the past we have had guys from Eastern Michigan University with great success, but our goal is to have the game here, and so that made it out of reach. Now we are working with coaches from Springfield,

so with the new location, we may accomplish this. We had around 30 players this year. It continues to grow.

The Gathering of Little Turtles was a great success. The focus were animals important to the tribe. Amanda Butcher, Cultural Committee Member, went through the Missouri Conservation Office and borrowed several totes with amazing crafts and information inside. The kids had a wonderful weekend.

SIA guys from the Comanche Nation came out Saturday with three different eagles -- Bald, Golden and African.

That was very exciting for the kids and adults alike. Dr. Steckley taught language to the children, which is always fun and interactive for them. Breakout sessions were set up in several areas around the fitness center with teachings of the different animals, which also included plants for foods.

We are already looking forward to next year.

We are focusing on the Gathering and Pow-Wow next. The Cultural Committee met Saturday, July 13, to finalized plans and the agenda will be on website

by the first of August. They have so many wonderful classes planned for this year.

The dates are Sept. 11-13. Please be sure to register when it becomes available to get a T-shirt. Pow-Wow will start at 7 pm so bring your chairs and shawls to dance and enjoy the weekend. There will be a shuttle at the hotel for members to ride to the Pow-Wow Saturday. There will be more details at the Gathering regarding the shuttle. Hope to see you all there!

Mission Church Trip Celebration: Please see below for celebration details.

For more information, please contact Kim Garcia at 918-678-6317 or at kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org.

A Remembrance of Our Shared History:

The Wyandotte/ Wyandot and the People Called Methodists



Saturday, September 21st at 1:00 p.m.
John Stewart United Methodist Church
Upper Sandusky, Ohio

Join us in marking the next chapter of a shared history spanning 200 years, as Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, together with The General Commission on Archives and History, returns sacred land to The Wyandotte Nation.

GLOBAL MINISTRIES
General Board of Global Ministries



ARCHIVES & HISTORY
The United Methodist Church



Event Schedule

1:00 PM - Arrivals

1:30 PM - Program begins at John Stewart UMC

2:00 PM - Procession to burial grounds and Mission Church

3:00 PM - Ceremony continues at East Church & North 4th Streets

5:00 PM - Celebration dinner at John Stewart UMC

Reserve your space now!

<https://remembering-our-shared-history.eventbrite.com>

Parking: John Stewart United Methodist Church, 130 West Johnson Street
First Presbyterian Church, 129 W Johnson Street
Large vehicle parking: Saint Paul Lutheran Church, 128 West Wyandot Ave.
Due to limited parking, we encourage you to look for on-street parking and carpool.
Shuttle service available from the Quality Inn and Royalton Inn to the event.

Locations: The event includes a 1-mile procession from John Stewart UMC to the Mission Church and cemetery. Alternative transportation will be available both directions. Please plan comfortable shoes and attire according to the weather. There will be light refreshments and portable bathrooms at the Mission Church.

For additional inquiries, please contact info@umcmission.org.