



The Turtle Speaks

Gyah'-Wish Atak-ia

A Wyandotte Nation Publication

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View from Above

Aerial photos show the various properties of the Wyandotte Nation. (From the top) The new administration building sits next to the Cultural Center & Museum while also being next door neighbors to Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center. Just down the hill is the Long Building (Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma -- home of economic development). And at the bottom is the Turtle Stop in Wyandotte. We have more photos to share later.

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

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Board of Directors

ChiefBilly Friend
 Second ChiefNorman Hildebrand, Jr.
 Councilperson..... Ramona Reid
 Councilperson..... Vivian Fink
 Councilperson..... Juanita McQuiston
 Councilperson.....Eric Lofland

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Editor/Design: William Swaim



Cover Photo:
 A unique view
 of the various
 Tribe proper-
 ties. Watch for
 more later.

PHOTO BY MELANIE DAWN PHOTOGRAPHY

Contact Us

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.

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From the Chief

Billy Friend

Facing the challenge

On July 4th this year we celebrated the 245th anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence.

As Wyandottes and Americans, we celebrate what it means to us, and to all Americans. At the same time, we celebrate our Wyandotte Nation sovereignty and the many Wyandotte contributions to the evolving story of the United States.

We have a great challenge before us. This challenge is to pass on the Wyandotte legacy to present and future generations. This challenge can be achieved by making wise decisions, to advance the progress of the Wyandotte Nation and to encourage each of our citizens to earn a quality of life for themselves, their families, communities and Nation.

Wyandottes, and citizens of many other tribal nations, had a significant impact on the outcome of the American Revolutionary War. The tribes were recognized by both the Americans and British as powerful and skillful military powers. The young inexperienced nation realized the importance of strong alliances with the tribes, and the Wyandotte Nation and its sister tribes were rightly recognized in the commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution as sovereign nations.

As I began to reflect on our Wyandotte legacy, which we have been entrusted, I realized that a legacy is a gift from our ancestors. Our legacy is that we are a people who face adversity and survive, adapt, prosper, and excel. The decision to accept this legacy and its responsibility is not difficult. What greater honor, what greater opportunity can we have than to provide something meaningful and enriching to our children and grandchildren? History and our children will judge us on the decisions we make and the actions we take today.

Of course, our history is of a tribe of longstanding with a fully functioning government. Our tribal government is the foundation upon which our sovereignty rests.

It is important that we understand how we exist as a sovereign nation within the United States. We take much pride in being citizens of both the U.S. and the Wyandotte Nation. Despite the many hardships and challenges over the generations, we are loyal citizens of both sovereigns. Our history is unique and to be celebrated and honored.

Indian people have been among the most patriotic and giving American citizens. Indian men and women have

served, and continue to serve, in the U.S. military at much higher levels than the American population overall. Indian citizens, since the country's establishment, have compiled a consistent record of service and sacrifice to guarantee our precious American freedoms. The Wyandotte Nation has always held it's veterans in the highest regard.

At the same time, we love, honor and revere our tribe. Our Wyandotte culture and traditions have been preserved throughout the centuries of disproportionate Indian policy. Our tribal government has endured many challenges to continually function for hundreds, and likely thousands, of years. Most importantly, we have relied on each other. We have maintained the strength of the Wyandotte Nation through the strength of our Wyandotte families, friends and fellow citizens.

Today we appreciate and value our citizenship in the Wyandotte Nation, and in the United States of America and celebrate our freedom and are grateful for those who made sacrifices for it.

May God continue to bless you and your family and may God continue to bless the Wyandotte Nation.

From the Second Chief

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

Fighting misinformation

Kweh

Hello my fellow Wyandotte Citizens, I hope everyone is staying safe and sanitized during this pandemic that has been a part of our lives this past year and a half. As far as the pandemic here in Northeast Oklahoma everything was looking good until a couple of months ago when we started to get a spike in infections. Evidently the Delta Variant has made it to this area and according to experts in all fifty states as well. So far it is much worse than Covid-19 the variant is affecting young children and adults of

all ages. The way it stands right now over 99% of the infections and deaths is affecting the unvaccinated populace. I cannot stress enough how important it is to get vaccinated it could mean the difference between spending a day or two in the hospital or months on a ventilator with possible lasting complications. There is a lot of misinformation out on social media about the vaccine, if you are unsure about it consult your physician and then decide on the right choice for you. We don't want to lose any more Wyandotte Citizens to this terrible disease if it can be

prevented.

The new Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland stated in June during the National Congress of American Indians Mid-Year Conference that an investigation will be done concerning possible deaths at Boarding Schools here in the United States. I am hoping no mass graves will be found here like there was in Canada, but this investigation is something



2nd Chief

Continued from Page 2

that has been needed to happen for a long time.

Now for some history, to keep with the theme I seem to have started let's delve into the death of Miss Jane McCrea in 1777. I think you will find this very interesting. It has been said, history is written by the victors. Because of this the histories of the Border Wars largely ignore the white man's cruelties and mistakes. One such story is the killing of Miss Jane McCrea. Actually, there are many stories that tell of Jane's death and most are so flamboyant, and as far from the truth, as nightmarish fairy tales. In spite of an apparent knowledge of truth that existed at the time, the outlandish stories were allowed to purposefully instill fear and disdain in the Colonial Americans toward both the British and their allies, the allied tribes of the Ohio Country – in particular the Wyandot.

The one account relevant to this story that is most often ignored is the one told by the accused who was present when Jane died, one of very few eyewitnesses. Let's look at two of the more prominent versions of Jane's death. Why is Jane's death so important, after all, she is but one of thousands to die during the American Revolution at the hands of the Indians. This is the problem; Jane did not die at the hands of the Indians, yet still, the Wyandot were blamed for her death.

It is known Jane's fiancé was a tory officer by the name of David Jones. Tories were American colonists who supported the British efforts during the American Revolution. David was attached to the army of British Lieu-

tenant General John Burgoyne. It is said in one version of the story on July 27, 1777 Jane's fiancé commissioned two Indian scouts, Wyandot nonetheless, to escort Jane to their appointed wedding near Fort Edward. It was also said while in route Jane was brutally killed by one of the scouts named Le Loup. Supposedly, a disagreement occurred between the two Wyandots over a keg of rum paid them for their services. In the ensuing argument Le Loup, for no apparent reason, decided to tomahawk and scalp Jane. Afterwards Le Loup is said to have proudly displayed his trophy for all to see while confessing to her murder. Le Loup supposedly made his confession in the presence of General Fraser who was cousin to another captive also reportedly taken by Le Loup. Mrs. McNeil was returned to her people alive, but stripped naked and publicly shamed. Because of this General Fraser was convinced Le Loup killed Miss McCrea.

In a second version of the story Jane was to be escorted by a detachment of British soldiers for a getaway excursion on Lake George where David Jones had intentions of taking Miss McCrea as his wife. Before the marriage party could leave for the short trip to Fort Edward the detachment of British soldiers were distracted due to the unexpected presence of American soldiers in the general vicinity. While the British soldiers were absent from their protective care of Jane, and chasing rebel soldiers, Indians took her and her friend Mrs. McNeil captive. The two unfortunate young women were dragged from their hiding place in the cellar of Mrs. McNeil's home where Jane had been staying.

In flight they were pursued by a few of the Americans who upon firing at the fleeing Wyandots mistakenly hit Jane and instantly killed her. During the flight Jane had been separated from the company of Mrs. McNeil.

Lieutenant General Burgoyne was infuriated and in an ensuing investigation identified Jane's supposed captor and murderer as Le Loup. It was suggested Le Loup viciously tomahawked and scalped Jane in spite of no wounds on her body to substantiate such a brutal attack. Le Loup argued it was the Americans who had shot and killed Jane as they attempted to stop his flight. No one at the time was willing to believe the Wyandot's version of what he said actually occurred. After much to do Lieutenant General Burgoyne eventually failed to punish Jane's supposed killer due to pressure from his superiors to not upset and antagonize the Indians. If Le Loup had been wrongly punished for the accusation and Jane had truly been killed by the Americans, the Indians, especially the Wyandot who the British desperately needed as allies, would have revolted and declared war on both the British and the Americans.

Regardless of what truly happened the killing of Jane McCrea was a rallying cry for the recruitment of Patriot forces against the British. Many Tories realizing the British could not protect, nor likely had any desire or intent to protect them from the Indians, switched loyalties and supported the Colonists quest for independence. The story of Miss Jane McCrea's brutal murder at the hands of the Wyandot warrior spread throughout the colonies in many fanciful variations. Jane quickly became a

"A life spent in making mistakes is not only more honorable but more useful than a life spent in doing nothing."

--George Bernard Shaw

martyred legend, which only inflamed an already blistering hate for the cruel and savage Wyandot.

Nearly fifty years later in 1826 the killing of Miss Jane McCrea was still a big story and legend of folklore. It was then James Fenimore Cooper first published his classic novel The Last of the Mohicans. It is believed the killing of Jane was inspiration for the killing of Cora in his literary masterpiece. Of course it's clear Mr. Cooper took many creative liberties with the event, as his narrative of 1757 was during the French and Indian War, not the American Revolution. By the time all the evidence surrounding Jane's death was being compiled in 1853, David Wilson wrote Jane McCrea's biography. Her body was exhumed, examined, and reburied. The evidence did not support a brutal tomahawk attack by Le Loup, but rather her body did possess the presence of bullet holes as obtained from musket balls just as Le Loup first indicated.

As Mr. Wilson began to write he summarized Jane's death, "In the history of the Revolutionary War, perhaps no single incident is recorded which, at the time of its occurrence, created more intense sympathy, or aroused a spirit of more bitter indignation, than the massacre of Jane McCrea." This is certainly a very interesting story. Please everyone stay safe and hopefully we will all be together soon.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Annual Meeting Sept. 11

On Sept. 11, 2021, the Wyandotte Nation shall hold their Annual Meeting at the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center near Wyandotte, Okla.

The Annual Meeting will start at 10 a.m. As of the date of this

publication, it has been determined that there are no contested posts for elective office within the government of the Wyandotte Nation.

Therefore, it is not necessary to hold an election at the Tribe's annual meeting on Saturday, Sept.

11, 2021 per the Wyandotte Nation Constitution.

The 2021 Qualified Wyandotte Nation Election Candidates:

- **Chief:** Billy Friend
- **Board of Director members:**

Ramona Reid, Eric Lofland.

• **Grievance Committee members:** Derald Clemons, Darlene Trimble, Catherine J. Hitchcock.

The term of each position is four years.

TRIBAL CITIZENS NEWS

Garrard named Athlete of the Year

*Tribal citizen excels
as three sport
athlete at Webb City*

BY JARED PORTER

JOPLIN GLOBE

(REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION)

Adversity wouldn't stop Mekhi Garrard from continuing his ascension as a three-sport standout at Webb City High School.

In the wake of a leg injury (tibia fracture) he suffered in the summer of 2020, the senior bounced back in a big way to aid the Cardinals as a key contributor in football, basketball and track and field.

Garrard has been named the Wendell Redden Boys Athlete of the Year by the Globe for the 2020-2021 school year.

"The year he had is really a testament to his drive and the type of kid he is," Webb City football coach John Roderique said. "At one point, we didn't know what his situation was or if we'd get him back. ... Not very many kids can go through something like that and come back and do the things he did for us."

Garrard made his return from injury in Week 4 of Webb City's football season in mid-September — an outing that saw the receiver haul in a 35-yard touchdown pass in a 38-10 win over Kickapoo. He went on to tally 12 catches on the year with four touchdowns and 218 reception yards to aid the Cardinals in a run to the Class 5 state semifinals.

Among the season highlights for Garrard was the district championship game against Carthage when he tallied two catches for 50 yards and one touchdown in a 42-21 Webb City triumph.

"I really think, athletically, he just got better and better," Roderique said. "He's an athlete whose best days are still ahead of him. ... He has God-given ability and he has the type of drive to keep improving. We saw that throughout the football season and continued to see it in the winter and then the spring."



Wyandotte tribal citizen Mekhi Garrard was named Athlete of the Year by the Joplin Globe in Missouri after recently winning a state title in track and field this past Spring. Garrard also excelled at football and basketball.

COURTESY PHOTO

In the winter, Garrard was a key contributor for the Cardinals' basketball team that went 18-9 and made a run to the Class 5 District 12 championship game. The 6-foot guard posted per-game averages of 10 points, 5.1 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 2.1 steals while shooting 45 percent from the floor.

"He's the type of player who will do whatever you need him to do to win a basketball game," Webb City basketball coach Jason Horn said.

"He could score it, rebound, defend — just anything. He showed a lot of maturity, too. I'm really proud of the way he developed as a player and a person."

Perhaps Garrard's best showing of the year came in the spring track and field season. He picked up one individual state title and two other podium finishes to aid the Webb City boys to a team championship at the Class 4 state meet at Adkins Stadium in Jefferson City.

Garrard won the long jump with a leap of 23 feet, 3 1/4 inches to pick up the first track and field state title in his prep career. He also placed second in the triple jump at 45-10, and he joined William Wolfe, James Morgan and Pryce Mason on the Cardinals' 4x400 relay team that placed fourth.

"For him to win the long jump and do as well as he did in his other events, it was just really special," Webb City track and field coach Dustin Miller said. "I couldn't be more proud of the work he put in and the selflessness he showed to help the team in any way he could."

"The thing that just gives me goosebumps is that there aren't very many kids like Mekhi who come out for three sports anymore," Roderique said. "Here's an example of a kid who's shown you can do that and you can excel in multiple (sports). He's a kid who probably could have picked which sport he wanted to play in college."

Garrard will continue his athletic career with the Missouri Southern track and field team in the upcoming school year.



JOPLIN GLOBE FILE PHOTO

Garrard was also a standout basketball player.

TRIBAL CITIZENS NEWS

Graham named Scholar in national competition

National Cyber Scholarship Foundation recognizes tribal citizen for outstanding achievement

Caleb Graham, an incoming senior at Carl Junction High School, has been named a Scholar in the National Cyber Scholarship Competition (NCSC), a rigorous 48-hour online competition sponsored by The National Cyber Scholarship Foundation (NCSF). In recognition of his achievement, Graham earned an invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy – a multi-week online program based on the nationally-recognized SANS Foundations training course and certification – valued at more than \$3,000 and a \$2,500 college



COURTESY PHOTO
Graham was named a scholar in a national cyber scholarship competition.

scholarship to the school of his choice.

Graham competed against 5,000 high school students in a cybersecurity competition designed to challenge its

participants to solve computer security problems and/or capture and defend computer systems. In total, 50,000 students nationwide sought to qualify for the NCSC; with just 10% meeting the requirements.

"I am very happy to be awarded the National Cyber Scholar status," said Graham. "The scholarship will help with college and I look forward to learning more through the Cyber Foundations course."

"The National Cyber Scholarship Competition recognizes high school students who have demonstrated exceptional cybersecurity prowess and who wish to pursue a career in a growing field in critical need of their talent," noted David Brown, executive director, National Cyber Scholarship Foundation. "The NCSF mission is to

identify and develop the next generation of cyber professionals. Each and every student who participated in this competition has the potential to develop their skills and build a successful career in cybersecurity."

There are several qualification pathways for the National Cyber Scholarship Competition including CyberStart America, a free online program that helps students discover their interest in cybersecurity and develop their talent and skills. The NCSC offers 600 college scholarships to top-ranking competitors. Additionally, National Cyber Scholars, along with competition 1,000 finalists, are invited to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy. To learn more visit: National Cyber Scholarship Foundation.

Calling all Artisans!

We will be hosting an exhibit for all Wyandotte artisans! The annual Tribal Artisan Showcase's opening reception and award ceremony will be held Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 7 pm during the Gathering.

Check out the rules, categories, entry information and forms on our website, www.wyandotte-nation.org/tribal-news/wyandotte-tribal-artisan-showcase, or on Facebook, www.facebook.com/wyandottenation.

Entries for the Tribal Artisan Showcase are due Sept. 2 at noon.

Miles nabs scholarship in health studies

Emily Miles, a tribal citizen and student at Florida Southern College, shared her success in earning a scholarship after seeing it posted on the Wyandotte Nation Facebook page.

Miles was one of three recipients of a scholarship from Medtronic, aimed at helping American Indian students studying in the fields of healthcare and STEM.

"I wanted to personally thank you for sharing that opportunity and providing me a chance to gain more financial support. I am so honored to represent not only Florida Southern College in receiving this scholarship, but also the Wyandotte Nation," Miles said.

We frequently post scholarships

and other opportunities on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/wyandottenation, so 'follow' us and look out for other news and opportunities.

Congratulations to Emily, we wish her the best, and thanks for sharing!



COURTESY PHOTO
Miles with her scholarship.

Have News? Share it with us!

We want your news! We love to hear what our Tribal Citizens are up to and their latest accomplishments. Share your news and photos with us so we can let everyone else know what's going on with their fellow citizens. Have an idea for a feature story? Pitch it to us.

If you have news, accomplishments or something to share, please email your news and photos to: wsaim@wyandotte-nation.org.



31ST ANNUAL
**WYANDOTTE
POW-WOW**

September 10-12, 2021

Wyandotte Nation Pow-Wow Grounds
(5 miles East of Wyandotte on Hwy 60)

Friday
8 pm

Saturday
1:30 pm & 7 pm

Sunday
1:30 pm

Head Singer: Yellow Hammer
Head Man Dancer: Patrick Moore
Head Lady Dancer: Shelley Eagle-Bointy
Head Gourd Dancer: Bradley Dick
Northern Drum: Red Scout

Arena Director: Dude Blalock
Head Judge: Jay Blalock
Master of Ceremonies: Steve Kinder
Honor Guard: Wyandotte Honor Guard
Wyandotte Nation Princess: Sara Wright

\$50,000 in Prize Money!

Contests in All Categories

For Additional Information, Contact: Sherri Clemons | (918) 678-6344 | sclemons@wyandotte-nation.org

31ST ANNUAL WYANDOTTE POW-WOW



Contest Schedule

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY (Afternoon)

Jr Boy's Grass
Women's Cloth
Jr Girl's Fancy Shawl
Men's Straight

SATURDAY (Evening)

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

SUNDAY

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

GOURD DANCING: One Hour Prior to All Sessions

20th ANNUAL VETERANS HONOR PROGRAM: All Veterans Welcome

SPECIALS: All Specials Held Saturday Afternoon. Contact the Arena Director

OTHER: 49 Contest (Friday), Stomp Dance (Saturday), Special Grandparents Day Honor Dance & Prizes (Sunday)

HOST HOTELS: River Bend Casino & Hotel (918) 678-4946; Indigo Sky (888) 992-7591

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Everyone welcome! Must be registered & participate in two Grand Entries & two Exhibitions to qualify for contests. Must be registered in only one category. **MUST BE IN FULL DRESS TO RECEIVE CONTEST MONEY.** All decisions by the committee are final. All Food Vendors must have Oklahoma Food Handlers Permit. We are not responsible for thefts or accidents. No firearms, drugs or alcohol allowed. No personal shades set up before Friday afternoon. **NO PETS ALLOWED NEAR ARENA.**

NEWS & NOTES

Wyandotte Nation receives grant for digital archive

The Institute of Museum and Library Services recently announced 26 grants totaling \$2,264,639 to support Indian tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians.

Wyandotte Nation was awarded \$78,562 in order to implement the Wyandot Heritage Digital Archive: The

William E. Connelley Collection project. The collection includes thousands of documents about the history of negotiations with the federal government, the tribe's removal from Ohio to Kansas, and the treaty signed to purchase land in Indian territory. The project team will catalog, scan, digitize, and upload 8-10,000 documents of Wyandot materials to a digital database created and utilized by tribal citizens and accessible to researchers across the nation. The

project will also include the development of training videos on metadata and document transcriptions as well as a community workshop on the use of digital databases. Project members will promote activities and discoveries through various forms of social media to reach a variety of audiences.

"IMLS's Native American and Native Hawaiian grant programs celebrate Native heritage through collections preservation, exhibits, and lifelong learning," said

IMLS Director Crosby Kemper. "The awarded grants will help strengthen Native American and Native Hawaiian organizations through professional and capacity development, and support the wellbeing of their communities. Now more than ever, we are all looking for what we share, what unites us, and how we can better promote equity in our world. What better moment, what better activity, than the announcement of these funded projects and the important work they will do."

Miami Chamber of Commerce recognizes Bearkin Healthcare



COURTESY PHOTO

The Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce (Miami, Okla.) named Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center as its Business of the Year at its recent Awards Gala. Chief Billy Friend, Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, and Bearskin staff accepted the award.

OBITUARY

Bruce Leonard Pearson

April 30, 1932 – July 14, 2021

Bruce Leonard Pearson died at St. Mary's Hospital on the Mayo Clinic Campus on July 14, 2021. He was born on April 30, 1932, in Indianapolis, Indiana where he spent most of his childhood and remained a fan of the Indy 500 races all his life.

Bruce graduated from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana with a B.A. in 1953. He served alternative service as a conscientious objector under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee in Japan, where he taught English and spent summers working on field projects and in orphanages. Upon returning to the states, he taught in Shortridge High School in Indianapolis, pursuing a degree in Linguistics at Indiana University during the summers. He was awarded an M.A. in 1963. He then accepted a position at Earlham College as an administrator and faculty member. The college was developing the Conner Prairie Pioneer Settlement, a living history museum built around the homestead of William Conner, one of the state's pioneer settlers. Bruce's focus on the settler was quickly eclipsed by his interest in the Delaware Indians, with whom Conner had grown up. With his study in languages and the seeds of culture embedded within grammar structures and vocabulary, Bruce decided to pursue a doctoral degree at the University of California at Berkeley. While there he began research on the Delaware language. On completing his degree in 1972, he accepted a faculty position at the University of South Carolina to teach linguistics and other anthropology courses, retiring in 1997 as professor emeritus. He worked throughout his academic career on Delaware and Shawnee, both members of the Algonquian language family.

In 1994 while speaking at a conference on the Historic Tribes of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, Bruce met Jim Bland, then the second chief of the Wyandotte Nation, who asked him to help the tribe to preserve their own language, a member of the Iroquois language family.

Bruce is survived by his wife of 32 years, Julia; children: Sarah Columbus, Thomas (Tracey) Pearson, Cresta (Colleen Coulter) Cates, and Kate (Nicholas) Remmes; and grandchildren: Paul, Alison, and Amy Columbus; Atlee (Miranda) and Tanner Pearson; Solomon and Lyle Cates, and Liam and Keegan Gabauer; Genevieve and Duncan Remmes; his sister, Susan (Kenneth) Steeves; and the Knox brothers- and sisters-in-law as well as many nieces and nephews. A special companion and gentle joy for the past seven years has been his beagle, Suki.



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.
- No need to retype your financial information.

Secure:

- When shopping online you will never have to give your credit card number to us.
- 100% protection against any unauthorized payments sent from your account.
- All of your purchases are confirmed with an email receipt.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Human Resources

Submitted by Deana Howard, HR Director

The Human Resources Department has a new full-time staff member, tribal citizen Haylee Griffin.



GRIFFIN

Haylee will serve as the Receptionist in the lower level of the new Administration Building. Haylee received her Bachelors in General Studies in May of 2021. Haylee likes spending time outdoors fishing, and she enjoys crafting. Haylee enjoys time with her nieces and nephews, her dogs and her fiancé. We are very fortunate to have Haylee rejoin the Wyandotte Nation.

The Housing Department has a new staff member, tribal citizen Randall Qualls. Randall graduated from MHS. He worked 24 years in the healthcare industry. In his spare time, Randall enjoys woodworking. He also enjoys spending time with his grandkids. We are very fortunate to have Randall join our team.



QUALLS

The Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center is happy to welcome tribal citizen Janet Webb as the new Patient Benefit Coordinator, and Morgan Reeves as a Pharmacy Technician.

Janet has worked several years in the medical field and has previous experience. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and jigsaw puzzles. She also loves spending time with her 10 grandkids, her husband, and with her family. We wish Janet much success in her new position.



WEBB

Morgan graduated from Wyandotte High School and from the Pharmacy Technician Program in 2021, and worked in the



REEVES

Wyandotte Nation pharmacy as an intern. In her spare time, she enjoys travel baseball and kids sports. She also enjoys spending time with her family and friends. We are very fortunate to have Morgan on our team and wish her much success in her new position.

The Facilities Department welcomes tribal citizen Rory Reid as a Facilities Technician. Rory has 40 years of experience in construction.



REID

He was born in California and moved to the Midwest in 1999 where he lived and raised his family in Kansas City. He is a proud grandpa. Rory in his spare time has played in numerous bands and still enjoys playing for fun, likes motorcycle riding and racing. Rory also enjoys spending time working on his house. We are very fortunate to have Rory on our team and wish him much success in his new position.

The Accounting Department is happy to welcome Christy Dohrman.



DOHRMAN

Christy will serve as the Senior Accounting Manager for the Wyandotte Nation. Christy has her Bachelor's Degree with an emphasis in Accounting and her Master's Degree in Science of Accounting. In her spare time, she enjoys DIY Projects, painting, drawing and genealogy research.



HOLLINGSHEAD

She loves spending time with her two dogs. We are very fortunate to have Christy on our team and wish her much success in her new position.

The Housing Department has a new seasonal staff

Service Awards



WILLIAM SWAIM | WYANDOTTE NATION

The Wyandotte Nation recognized several employees May 7 for their years of service to the Tribe. Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend and Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Jr. presented gifts and HR staff later served up cake to the honorees as well as the fellow employees who came out to support them in the milestone. Employees serving for five years included Kristi Johnston, Chris Rhodes, Tiffany Garner, and Twylia Stone. Employees recognized for 10 years of service included Leeanna Radabaugh and Levi Griffin. Employees reaching the 15-year milestone included Richard Teeter and Erin Corbit. The ceremony took place in the conference room of the new Administration Building.

Pictured from left to right: Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Jr., Kristi Johnston, Chris Rhodes, Tiffany Garner, Twylia Stone, Levi Griffin, Richard Teeter, and Chief Billy Friend. Not pictured: Leeanna Radabaugh and Erin Corbit.

member Gage Hollingshead. Gage just graduated high school and will be attending William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., in the fall. In his spare time, Gage enjoys hunting, fishing, and power lifting. He also enjoys spending time with his family, girlfriend and being outside helping his grandma with yardwork, work, school, and video games. We are very fortunate to have Gage join us this year.

work in person/office and so far we've had beautiful summer weather with mild temperatures, just to name a few of those reasons. We are also looking forward to seeing our tribal citizens in September at The Gathering, Annual Meeting and Pow-Wow! Details regarding these events can be found elsewhere in the newsletter, but please be sure to follow us on Facebook and/or visit our website www.wyandotte-nation.org as we get closer to the date, as there may need to be last minute changes.

As always, you must present your Wyandotte Nation membership or citizenship card to vote and/or register for the Annual Meeting. This card will display your enrollment number, not to be confused with the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, which is not proof of citizenship with the Nation. If you are in need of a replacement card please contact a member of the Family Service staff or the application can be found on

Family Services

Submitted by Dana Butterfield, Family Services Director

In the midst of all the chaos of 2020 and 2021 we have many reasons to be thankful. The Family Services Department has increased by two employees, we have moved into beautiful new offices, staff members are healthy and able to

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the website under the Community/Family Services tab.

If you haven't submitted a COVID Relief application yet, the deadline to apply is Aug. 15. Applications for this program can be found on our website or one can be emailed by contacting a member of the Family Services staff. We encourage everyone who has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to apply for the funding. Receipts and/or supporting documentation is not required to be submitted with the application, but should be saved in case we need to request in the future.

If you need to enroll a child with the Nation please be sure to have your application to the office by the Aug. 15 deadline. Each application must be accompanied by an original state certified birth certificate. The birth certificate will be returned within 10-14 business days of receipt. Children whose applications are received by their first birthday will receive a \$100 gift card and a tribal blanket. New members will be voted in at the Annual Meeting and citizenship cards will be mailed to new members by Nov. 1, 2021.

In this article, I would like to highlight a few of our existing programs

that are only available between July 1 and Sept. 30. A complete list of programs offered through the Family Services Department can be found on the website.

The School Supply Program started July 1 and is available to all students nationwide pre-k (must be at least 3 and enrolled in a qualified learning program) through grade 12. Each student is eligible for up to \$100 for school supplies, clothing, backpacks, lunch boxes, etc. Walmart giftcards are available for tribal citizens who reside in OK, AR, KS and MO and students nationwide will be reimbursed for expenses. Please note that all applications and receipts must be original so they will either need to be mailed or hand delivered. Applications for both the gift card and the reimbursement program are available on the website homepage as well as a one-page guideline. Please note that each child must be on a separate application with separate receipts for the reimbursement program. Applications MUST be postmarked or hand delivered no later than Sept. 30. If you have questions, please call Leeanna at 918-678-6329.

The Senior Energy program began July 1 and will make one \$100

payment between July 1 and Sept. 30 directly to your energy provider. This program does require an application each year and is available nationwide. Please submit the application along with a copy of your current electric bill. Applications can be found on our website or one can be mailed/emailed to you. Please allow up to 30 days for payments to process. For questions about this program, please contact Tiffany at 918-678-6353.

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 and has an income requirement. 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. For questions about this program, please call Tara Gragg at 918-678-6355.

Other programs available through the Family Services Department include: Elder's Assistance, Extra-curricular Expense; High School Jr/Sr Benefit; Fuel Assistance; Child Safety Seat Program; Tribal Tag Program; Supplemental Health (aka Benny card); Burial Assistance; Indian Child Welfare, Family Violence Prevention Program and Winter Clothing. Please note that all of the Family Service programs (with the exception of the Supple-

mental Health Program/Benny card) end on 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 serve 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:

Director, Dana Butterfield, 918-678-6319, dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org

ICW Supervisor, Tara Gragg, 918-678-6355, tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org

ICW Worker, Carmalita Ward, 918-678-6485, cward@wyandotte-nation.org

Tag Administrator, Tiffany Garner, 918-678-6353, tgarner@wyandotte-nation.org

Family Services Specialist, Leeanna Radabaugh, 918-678-6329, lradabaugh@wyandotte-nation.org

DV Advocate/Educator Supervisor, Lisa Arnold, 918-678-6324, lisaarnold@wyandotte-nation.org

DV/SA Advocate, Cesilie Hale, 918-678-3269, chale@wyandotte-nation.org

DV/Elder Abuse Advocate, Katie Griffin, 918-678-6486, kgriffin@wyandotte-nation.org

Family Services email: wnfs@wyandotte-nation.org

Family Violence Prevention Program: fvpp@wyandotte-nation.org

Wyandotte Nation Family Services Programs Dates to Remember

Elder's Assistance: Oct. 1 – Sept. 30

Senior Energy - Winter: Oct. 1 – Feb. 28

Senior Energy - Summer: July 1 – Sept. 30

LIHEAP - (if available) Winter: Dec. 1 – Feb. 28

LIHEAP - (if available) Summer: July 1 – Sept. 30

School Supplies: July 1 – Sept. 30

Children's Winter Clothing: Nov. 1 – Feb. 28

Extracurricular Activities: Oct. 1 – Sept. 30

Jr./Sr. High School Assistance: Oct. 1 – Sept. 30

Wyandotte Nation Annual Meeting: Sept. 11

Children's Christmas Party: Dec. 11

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

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) 678-6353

Education

*Submitted by Cristi Hudson,
Education Director*

Kweh,

The Education Building sustained major damage in a recent flash flood causing us to close the Wyandotte Nation Library until further notice. If you have access to the internet, you may create an account and visit

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our virtual library at www.okvir-tuallibrary.overdrive.com, to gain access to several different eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, and videos. Once you are on the virtual library website, you will need to login by selecting "login." Next, select our library "Wyandotte Nation Historical Library." Then, it will ask for a username and password, you will need to contact the Librarian Madeline Harnar, mharnar@wyandotte-nation.org to get your assigned username and password.

Wyandotte Nation Child Development Center is full for the upcoming preschool year. We are still accepting applications to be placed on a waiting list for all age groups: infants, toddlers, preschool, and afterschool. You may contact Lindsay Cooper for an application by email, lcooper@wyandotte-nation.org or by phone 918-678-3267.

Wyandotte Nation Scholarship Program will begin processing fall 2021 semester scholarships soon. If you are currently on the scholarship program, you will need to email, mail, or fax our Education Specialist Evan Hotulke your latest transcript. Your transcript will need to include your spring 2021 grades and your fall 2021 schedule.

Here are a few Wyandotte Nation Undergraduate Scholarship reminders:

- 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 an Undergraduate or Masters Scholarship application that Wyandotte Nation offers, you can email your request or any questions you may have to Evan Hotulke, at ehotulke@wyandotte-nation.org; or by calling his office at 918-678-6331.

Wyandotte Nations' 477 Program is accepting applications for services. Services provided under the 477 Plan include job training and work

*Submitted by Brenda House,
Elder Services Director*

We partnered with the Quapaw, Ottawa, Peoria, Seneca/Cayuga, and Eastern Shawnee Tribes, Good Shepherd Hospice, Grand Gateway Area Agency on Aging, Quaker Hill Assisted Living, Amedysis Home Health and the Senior Companions to hold our first ever June Jamboree at the Fairgrounds in Miami, Okla. We provided breakfast, lunch, a photo booth, vendor booths, games, a skit about caring for a loved one, tons of door prizes and a 50-inch television as the grand prize. 230 Elders participated. The amazing Duke Mason provided the music.

Friday night into Saturday morning on June 25-26 we had torrential rains that caused flooding in the Elder Services (Title VI Building), Old Administration Building and The Education Building. It is going to be a while before we are back to normal operation. The other tribes in the area are feeding the Elders for congregate meals and we collaborated with the Eastern Shawnee Tribe to make our home delivered meals for us to pick up and take to our homebound Elders.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone for the Gathering and Pow Wow in September.

CAREGIVER

Our Caregiver Support Group

experience, educational assistance, and childcare assistance. Eligibility requirements:

- Complete, signed, and dated application
- Member of a federally recognized tribe
- Selective Service Registration Card
- Proof of residency in Service Area

Additional required documents will be needed once you are placed with a service and assigned to a 477 Specialist. If you are in need of any

of these services, you may request an application to apply for any of our 477 services by emailing wn477@wyandotte-nation.org or by calling Kasey Lewis at 918-678-3268.

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

Department Contacts:

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

Sami Butterfield – Caseworker/Childcare Specialist, 918-678-6330 or



meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 am. We have moved the meetings to the Cafe in Fairland, Okla., until the remodel of our flooded building is complete. Lunch provided following the meeting.

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 us anytime.

Department Contacts:

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

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

Seth Higginbotham, Chris Rhodes, Robyn Beaty and Ashley Webb, Food Service Team Members (918) 678-6328

Menu, (918) 678-6326

sbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org

Lindsay Cooper – Early Childhood Program Coordinator, 918-678-3267 or lcooper@wyandotte-nation.org

Madeline Harnar – Librarian, 918-678-6332 or mharnar@wyandotte-nation.org

Evan Hotulke – Caseworker/Education/Employment Specialist, 918-678-6331 or ehotulke@wyandotte-nation.org

Kasey Lewis – Intake Clerk, 918-678-3268 or klewis@wyandotte-nation.org

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Planning & Natural Resources

*Submitted by Christen Lee,
Environmental & Planning Director*

Wyandotte Nation’s mission is, “To advance the standard of living of the Tribe...and to promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Wyandotte Nation.” To carry this mission forward in our tribal community, the Planning and Natural Resources Department provide a variety of services including, but not limited to, private well drinking water sampling and septic assessments for private home owners. We also encourage and provide a place to recycle. Lost Creek Recycling Center is open to the community and surrounding area Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 4:30 pm and 8 am to 3:30 pm on Friday. The facility can accept the following materials: paper, plastic, cardboard, tin and aluminum.

Thank you for recycling so many materials during the winter months! Usually we see a decrease in recyclable products during late winter and early spring, but many of you continue to bring us your metals, plastics, and papers.



The Lost Creek Recycle Center has been very busy with our local recycling pick up routes, the sorting of outside collection bins, baling of recyclable products and the shredding of old documents. Tribal citizen Calvin Hudson, who is a part of the Summer Youth Program, has been busy helping us with all the day-to-day activities and duties.

Amounts collected for the months of April through June are listed in the table in this article.

Environmental Department staff has been staying busy with our monthly and quarterly sampling and monitoring of eight sites on area lakes and streams within the Wyandotte Nation Historic Jurisdiction. Due to measureable amounts

Awarded Grants		
Title	Amount	Purpose of Grant
Indian Housing Block Grant: Competitive Program	\$1,341,647	Address and meet the needs of underserved populations by developing affordable housing in a safe and healthy environment. Grant funds will be used to construct two 3-bedroom homes at Wyandotte Ridge and two single-family duplexes at Heritage Acres.
IMLS Native American Museum Services Program	\$78,562	Implement the Wyandotte Heritage Digital Archive: The William E. Connelley Collection project to include thousands of documents about the history of negotiations with the federal government, such as the tribe's removal from Ohio to Kansas and the treaty signed to purchase land in Indian territory.
Tribal Historic Preservation Funds	\$64,774	Protect and conserve historically and culturally significant Tribal assets and sites.
Performance Partnership Grant	\$293,581	Assess environmental conditions, analyze approaches and tools that are most likely to bring about the greatest environmental results, and develop goals and priorities that are translated into plans at the operational level.

of heavy rains, we’ve had to adjust our schedule a little, but the staff has been working hard to get all sampling completed per our Water 106 Grant. During the week of June 21-25, we were able to perform Habitat Assessments and Bio Assessments on our regular sampling sites.

Also during this week of April 21-25, we held a Tire Collection Event at the Lost Creek Recycle Center. A total of 493 tires were collected during this weeklong event.

On June 4, we were happy to be able to have an Environmental Education Booth at the Senior Elders Outdoor Senior Prom. It was so good to see all the happy smiling faces of the elders, as they enjoyed the music of Duke Mason and all the activities.

In other news, the infrastructure bid opening for Turtle Hill Estates occurred June 16, 2021. Kenny Singer Construction was the low bidder. Construction will begin in January of 2022 and should take approximately 6 months. The Environmental Department submitted their Performance Partnership Grant, which requires a work plan and separate budgets to combine three other grants, such as the Clean Water Act 106, General Assistance



(Above) Tires collected from the Tire Collection Event. (Top) Cleaning up during assessments. (Above Right) Meet the Department: Janice Wilson runs an Educational Booth at the Health Fair. (Below Right) View from the Educational Booth at the Senior Elders Outdoor Senior Prom.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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Program, and Non-Point Source.

The department assisted or developed proposals for grant funding opportunities including, but not limited to, Family Violence Prevention Services, Basic Library Services grant, Cultural Resources Finance Assistance grant, Office of Violence Against Women, Library Enhancement Grant, Office for Victims of Crime, and IMLS American Rescue Plan Grant. Wyandotte Nation should hear an award announcement for these grants no later than November.

The Planning and Natural Resources Department is also dedicated to researching and applying for federal, state, and foundation grants to benefit the Tribe and tribal community. Projects often serve tribal citizens within a 50-mile radius of tribal headquarters; however, some formula funded grants may serve citizens within a 100-mile radius.

Ultimately, the department's desire is to serve and create a positive impact on all Wyandottes across the United States.

Feel free to contact our department if you have a community project idea for a grant.

Meet the Department

Each newsletter provides you with names, information, and duties performed by our department. We will begin highlighting a different staff member each quarter. This quarter we are showcasing Janice Wilson.

Janice is our Water Technician and has been working for Wyandotte Nation for 30+ years, and 19 of them have been with our department. Janice enjoys pow-wows, fishing, hunting, and outside activities, but she mostly enjoys spending time with her kids, grand kids and great grand kids. Janice has been a valuable employee for our department and goes above and beyond to keep updated with Federal, State and

Solid Waste Collected from April - June	
Aluminum	339 lbs.
Cardboard	16,554 lbs.
Magazines	1,232 lbs.
Newspaper	810 lbs.
Plastic (#1 & #2)	1,989 lbs.
Shredded Paper	3,376 lbs.
Tin	612 lbs.
Combined Total	24,912 lbs.

Submitted by Kathy DeWeese, Housing Director

After being displaced for a few months, the housing offices are back in the Community Center.

Because of more flooding issues, some of the summer youth are also sharing our center. The Wyandotte Nation always works together to meet the needs of our people.

If you are in need of a rental home, please fill out an application and return to the Housing Office. Federal income guidelines apply.

If you are 55 and older, our senior housing may be for you. The duplexes are all two-bedroom, are equipped with appliances, and a garage. All yard work is done for you. Title VI (Elder food program) and Bearskin Clinic are close by. If you are interested, please fill out an application and return to the housing office.

Nahasda (Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act) is the program governed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Each year a Housing Plan must be submitted and approved by HUD. This plan provides for the upkeep of Nahasda units, rental assistance to college students and down payment assistance, as well as the day-to-day activities of the Department.

Wyandotte Nation received the Emergency Rental Assistance, which is part of the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2021. If you are in need of help with past due rent, current rent, or utilities, please fill out and return the application for assistance, which is found on the Wyandotte Nation website. Income guidelines do apply. This is a nationwide program. If you have questions regarding this process, please call or email our office. We will be happy to talk with you.

Local regulations pertaining to both surface and ground water compliance.

Housing

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 created the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and makes available \$25 billion provided directly to States, U.S. Territories, local governments, and Indian Tribes. This program is utilized to administer assistance to renters, landlords and utility providers that have been affected by the COVID 19 pandemic and economic insecurity.

Wyandotte Nation is a participant in the program and announces to tribal citizens that have been affected by this pandemic, the availability of funding to lessen the burden of rent and utilities.

- older who are renting
- Demonstrated risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability
- Experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, experienced a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic, or have qualified for unemployment benefits since March 13, 2020.
- Household income at or below 80% of the area median income, in the county you reside.

Applications are available on the Wyandotte Nation website, www.wyandotte-nation.org. You may also call 918-678-6339, or 918-678-6336, or email kdeweese@wyandotte-nation.org. Please contact us for any questions or concerns you may have. We are here to assist you.

- What is covered:**
- Past due rent
 - Past due utilities including, water, gas, propane and electric
 - Rental assistance up to three months forward
- Who qualifies:**
- Tribal members 18 years and

IHS -121 Program

This program is funded through the Department of Health & Human Services, to ensure safe drinking water and proper sanitation facilities for our tribal families. These services include drilling wells, installing septic systems, rural water hook-ups, and connections to city water and sewer. There are no income guidelines. Tribal members must reside in the following counties: Craig; Creek; Delaware; Mayes; Nowata; Okfuskee; Okmulgee;

Ottawa; Rogers; Tulsa; Wagoner; Washington.

Department Contacts:
Kathy DeWeese- Housing Director
Don Graham- Housing Specialist
Paul Parker- Project Coordinator
Levi Griffin- Project Coordinator
Randy Qualls- Residential Maintenance Technician
Drew Lankford- Residential Maintenance Technician

Department Contacts:
Director Christen Lee, clee@wyandotte-nation.org
Environmental Program Manager Kathleen Welch, kwelch@wyandotte-nation.org
Environmental Technician 1 Janice Wilson, jwilson@wyandotte-nation.org
Environmental Technician 2 John Gerhard, jgerhard@wyandotte-nation.org
Recycling Center Coordinator John Quick, jquick@wyandotte-nation.org

Land Management Technician Robby Graham, rgraham@wyandotte-nation.org
Water Utilities Operator Braulio, Ramirez bramirez@wyandotte-nation.org
Grant Writer / BIA Self-Governance Coordinator Debbie Dry, ddry@wyandotte-nation.org
Grant Writer 2/ 477 Coordinator Michael Lowery, mlowery@wyandotte-nation.org

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Healthcare

Submitted by Kelly Friend, Health Services Director

Vaccinations are still available! Call 918-678-3228 to schedule yours today!

Information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

What You Need to Know

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.

Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history.

CDC recommends you get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible.

If you are fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic. Learn more about what you can do when you have been fully vaccinated.

Millions of People have safely received a COVID-19 Vaccine

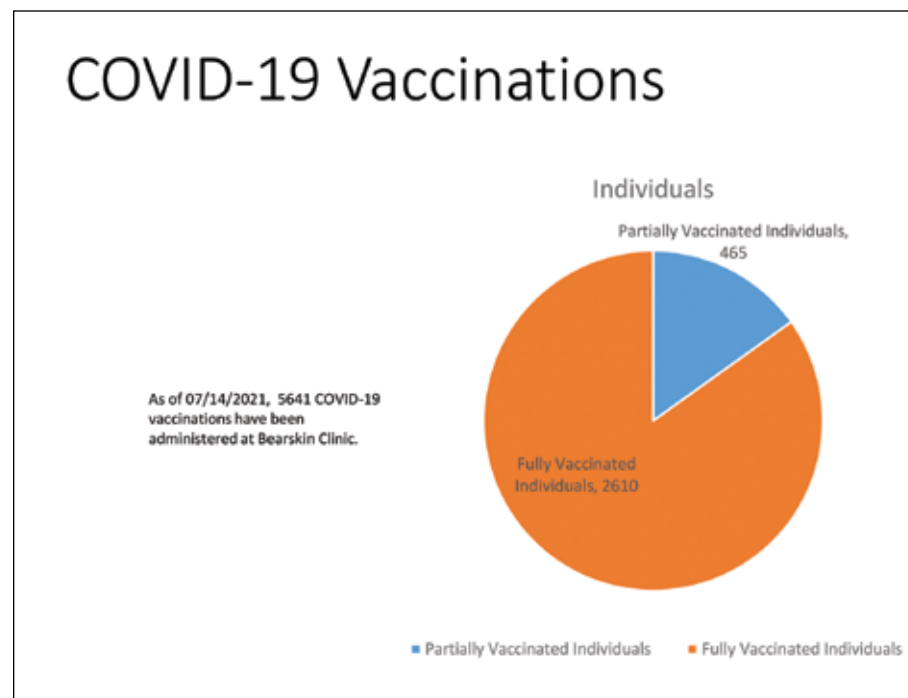
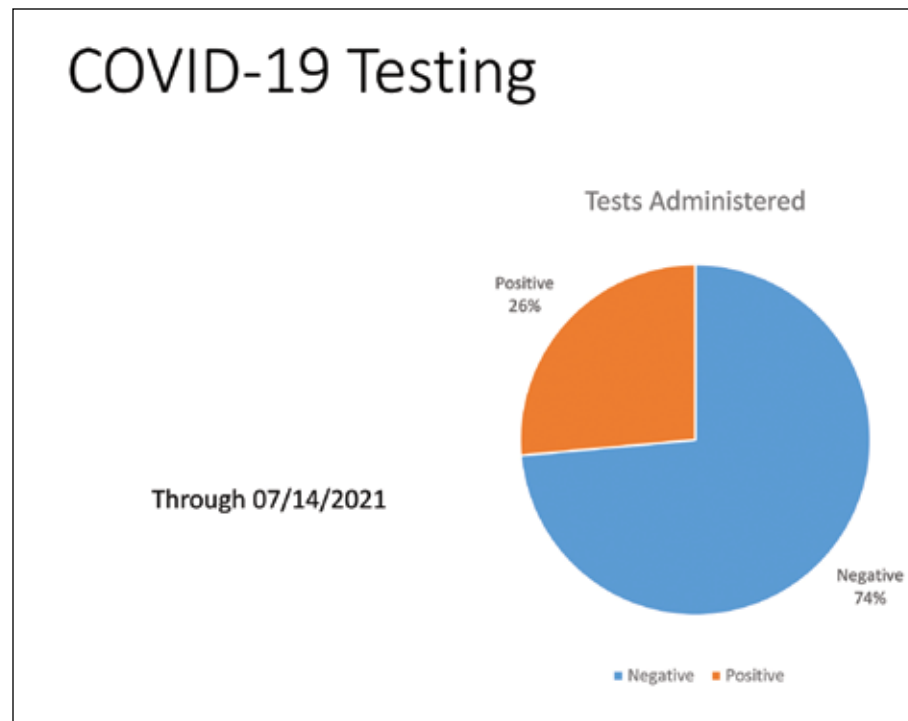
Over 334 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been given in the U.S. from Dec. 14, 2020, through July 12, 2021.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. COVID-19 vaccines were evaluated in tens of thousands of participants in clinical trials. The vaccines met the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality needed to support emergency use authorization (EUA).

Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines since they were authorized for emergency use by FDA. These vaccines have undergone and will continue to undergo the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe.

Results are reassuring

Results from vaccine safety monitoring



toring efforts are reassuring. Some people have no side effects. Others have reported common side effects after COVID-19 vaccination, like:

- swelling, redness, and pain at injection site
- fever
- headache
- tiredness
- muscle pain
- chills
- nausea

Serious safety problems are rare

To date, the systems in place to monitor the safety of these vaccines have found only two serious types of health problems after vaccination, both of which are rare. These are anaphylaxis and thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) after vaccination with J&J/Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine.

CDC Monitoring Reports of Myocarditis and Pericarditis

CDC has received increased reports of myocarditis and pericarditis in adolescents and young adults after COVID-19 vaccination. The known and potential benefits of COVID-19 vaccination outweigh the known and potential risks, including the possible risk of myocarditis or pericarditis. We continue to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for anyone 12 years of age and older.

Long-Term Side Effects Are Unlikely

Serious side effects that could cause a long-term health problem are extremely unlikely following any vaccination, including COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccine monitoring has historically shown that side effects generally happen within six weeks of receiving a vaccine dose. For this reason, the FDA required each of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines to be studied for at least two months (eight weeks) after the final dose. Millions of people have received COVID-19 vaccines, and no long-term side effects have been detected.

CDC continues to closely monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines. If scientists find a connection between a safety issue and a vaccine, FDA and the vaccine manufacturer will work toward an appropriate solution to address the specific safety concern (for example, a problem with a specific lot, a manufacturing issue, or the vaccine itself).

Department Contacts:

Kelly Friend, Director 918-678-3259
John Bearden, Compliance Officer / Vaccines 918-678-6482
Sheryl Hogan, Business Services Manager 918-678-3226
Ashley Crawford, Eastern Shawnee Liaison / Dental, Optometry, Audiology 918-678-3222
Bridget Hart, Purchased / Referred Care 918-678-3227
Deana Sweatt, Pharmacist 918-678-3247
 Refills, Automated Pharmacy Refill Line 918-678-3244

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Tribal Heritage

*Submitted by Kim Garcia,
Cultural Preservation Officer*

Kweh ɔmatɛru? ,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family healthy. The current pandemic has left many sorrows for all of us. Unfortunately, while we were planning to host the Gathering of Little Turtles this summer, another wave of COVID-19 hit the area and we had to make the difficult decision to cancel. We had over 150 people registered this year (a huge record!). However, we do believe cancelling was the right decision. Because we did not meet in person, we made activity kits and made them available for children all over the country. If your kids didn't get one, please reach out and we can mail it out.

This summer we have been focusing on several projects including making improvements to the cemetery. We had a columbarium built that has 48 drawers for cremations. We are looking at building a covered area that can be used for services or just as a quiet area. Our interns have been very diligent this summer to update the cemetery information that will be imported into the new cemetery software. We hope that these efforts will be a service to all Wyandotte Citizens and community members.

We are looking at submitting a grant to make improvements to the pow-wow grounds. We hope to add many necessary improvements to make our grounds the best in the area. The improvements include paving parking lots, adding additional vendor spaces, improve the electricity and sound system, and adding restrooms.

Dr. Koprís has developed units for the Wa^{ndat} language. We have contracted with Wyandotte Citizen Mari Hicks to facilitate language classes in the fall. Please be on the look out for class details.

The Ancestors Project is a study in Wyandotte genealogy. We have con-

Kweh ɔmatɛru? ! (Hello, friends!)

Do you know how to introduce yourself in Wa^{ndat}, our Wyandotte Language? The pattern begins like this:

[your name here] iżátsih

In Wa^{ndat} the new or important information comes first so, for example, Beci iżátsih means Beci is my name rather than the "My name is Beci" order you find in English. The z with the little v on top of it represents the jh sound you'd find in the middle of a word like "vision." We use it a lot when we say thank you: tižamɛh.

To tell someone you are Wyandotte, you'd say:

Wa^{ndat} "di?

Notice that the important information came first again! Wa^{ndat} is both the name of our Nation and our Language. The little superscript "v" before the d means you barely start to say the "n" sound before you say the "d." The last symbol that looks like an incomplete question mark

tracted with Wyandotte Citizen Sallie Andrews to work on this project beginning in September. We would love for you to help us create your family trees. If you have pictures or information on your family, please bring to the Gathering or any other time you are able to make it to Wyandotte.

The Wyandot Heritage Digital Archives (WHDA) is a project to digitize historical documents related to Wyandotte history and heritage. We have received two grants to add to the digitizations: the Huron Collection at the Glenn Black Labs at the University of Indiana and the Connelly Collection at Kansas City Public Library. Beci will have information about this project at the Gathering this September.

Beci has been the driving force for

is called a glottal stop. It signals you to stop making the last sound before you move on to the next one just like you do in the middle of exclaiming "uh-oh"!

Another piece often included in introductions is sharing where you currently live. Again put the name of the place first because it is new & important information. We do not have many place names in Wa^{ndat} so please use the English name or even the local native nation's name for the land where you live:

[place name] i^{ndat}:re?

We do have a word for Oklahoma so some of you could say Ayɔmé:^{ndat} i^{ndat}:re. The colon : tells you to stretch out the vowel sound located before it so it lasts about twice as long. The little hook under the o lets you know it's a nasal vowel and nasal has to do with the nose. Try using your mouth muscles to push the sound up towards your nose to make a sound like the middle of the word "taunt."

Last thing to mention is the little accent which tells you where to put the stress (or emphasis) when you are speaking.

an assessment on the museum to know where improvements need to be made. We also submitted a grant proposal to hire a museum technician to develop policies and procedures as well as work on museum inventory.

Chris has been working diligently on the traditional garden. He planted the Three Sisters Garden – corn, beans, and squash. He also planted tobacco, sage, and sweet grass for ceremonial purposes. This garden has been a great educational tool for children and adults.

Chris has also been teaching how to make the traditional pucker toe moccasins to the summer youth and to the summer interns. The kids have done a tremendous job!

We are getting ready for events coming up soon. Please be watching

Let's put it all together using me as an example: **Beci iżátsih. Wa^{ndat} "di?. Fayetteville i^{ndat}:re.**

We would love to hear you introduce yourself when visiting us at the Cultural Center or when you attend events such as The Gathering. (And we'd be more than happy to help with your pronunciation, too!)

Tižamɛh! Etsiskwayɛ? (I will see y'all again)

(For audio files of the featured vocabulary, go to www.wandot.org and click on Turtle Talk. We will also have an opportunity to practice this at The Gathering in September. Look for more language offerings at The Gathering and later this fall. Be sure to send any comments or suggestions, especially those on your language & culture wishlist, to: bwright@wyandotte-nation.org.)

Language support courtesy of our Wyandotte Nation Linguist, Dr. Craig Koprís. All mistakes are my own. – Beci

Facebook and the tribal website for registration and more details.

- Gathering – Sept. 7 – 10 (Please note, we've added an extra day this year!)
- Artisan Showcase Entries Due – Sept. 2 at noon (if additional time is needed, please let me know)
- Pow-Wow – Sept. 10 – 12

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of us at the Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center and Museum.

I will see you all soon! Eskwayɛ? !

Tɛtsi?tara?

Department Contacts:

Kim Garcia

kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org
918-678-6317

Sherri Clemons

sclemons@wyandotte-nation.org
918-678-6344

Chris Houk

chouk@wyandotte-nation.org
918-678-6318

Beci Wright

bwright@wyandotte-nation.org
918-678-6480

Teresa Wilson

twilson@wyandotte-nation.org
918-678-6385

Ancestors Project Update

- **Do you know of any ancestors that attended a residential/boarding school such as Carlisle, Haskell, or Seneca Indian School?**

- **Did any of your Wyandotte ancestors serve in a World War?**

Please share their names! We will have equipment available at The Gathering and would love to see & scan any records, photos, letters, or other information you would be willing to bring. If you cannot make it to The Gathering, we are available to help at the Cultural Center in person, online, or by mail. It is one way all of us can help "preserve the future of our past."

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Important Numbers

Police Department
Ronnie Gilmore (918) 678-6365
rgilmore@wntpd.com

Family Services / Enrollment
Dana Butterfield (918) 678-6319
dbutterfield@wyandotte-nation.org
Leeanna Radabaugh, (918) 678-6329
lradabaugh@wyandotte-nation.org

Tags
Tiffany Garner (918) 678-6353
tgarner@wyandotte-nation.org

Family Violence Prevention Program
Lisa Arnold, (918) 678-6324
fvpp@wyandotte-nation.org

Indian Child Welfare
Tara Gragg (918) 678-6355
tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org
Carmalita Ward, (918) 678-6485
cward@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

Tribal Heritage
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
Dee Dee Clapp (918) 678-3228
dclapp@wyandotte-nation.org

Dental / Vision
Ashley Crawford, (918) 678-3222
acrawford@wyandotte-nation.org

Pharmacy (call-in only)
(918) 678-3244

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

Contract Health
Bridget Hart (918) 678-3227
bhart@wyandotte-nation.org

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2021

GATHERING

SEPT.
7-10



31ST ANNUAL POW-WOW

SEPT.
10 - 12



ANNUAL MEETING

SEPT.
11



TOWN HALL MEETINGS

TBD



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

OCT.
5



SCARECROW 5K

OCT.
23



SHOP WITH A COP

DEC.
5

NOTE: There will be a Chili Feed Fundraiser Oct. 4 for Shop With a Cop



CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC.
11



ALL EVENTS IN WYANDOTTE, OKLA. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!