



The Turtle Speaks

Gyah'-Wish Atak-ia

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Remembering Juanita

Pages 4-5

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- *Tribe helps raise awareness to Domestic Violence*

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Cover Photo:
 Juanita McQuiston discusses her life during a video interview.

PHOTOGRAPHER: WILLIAM SWAIM

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From the Chief

Billy Friend



Building a better future

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.”

--Ecclesiastes 9:10

step forward in the delivery of quality health care to our patients, and to all patients seeking health care. Once again, we are in the process of building on to our facility to provide more services to tribal citizens. The new addition will provide a drive thru pharmacy, physical therapy services, expanded laboratory as well as additional exam rooms and offices.

Furthermore, we believe quality education is important to the success and happiness of our Wyandotte citizens and Wyandotte families. Our Preschool (Turtle Tots) has always and continues to be one of the top programs in our area. With the recent addition of toddler and infant programs, we have outgrown our facilities and once again are remodeling and looking to expand as that program continues to grow. Year after year, the Wyandotte Nation invests more resources in education for the full range of Wyandotte students. The Board of Directors recently voted to raise both undergraduate and master's program scholarships to \$3,000 per semester.

We have also dedicated several million dollars to housing initiatives

over the past few years with housing projects such as Heritage Acres and Wyandotte Ridge, and have just recently began infrastructure work on Turtle Hill Estates and hope to start building homes there in 2022.

Economically, the Wyandotte Nation businesses stayed on course during the 2020 pandemic, and we did more than just survive. This summer we opened up our third Turtle Stop Convenience store in Seneca, Mo., and it is off to a great start. We also opened up our newest gaming operation Crosswinds Casino in Park City, Kansas, and are currently adding an additional 10,000 square feet to that facility, which will be opened by Jan. 1, 2022.

Kelly Carpino, CEO of WTOK and her management team has done an excellent job of making our facilities safe and secure. Our employees continue to provide great service and are committed to keeping our patrons safe. While companies across the country cut work forces, we reinvested in our people and recognized great results. Our economic base today is rock solid, and is built to serve Wyandotte people.

Each day we remind ourselves that we work for you – the Wyandotte people. Our goal every day is to serve you well, to make your life better, and to bring you the programs and services you need. Yes, we have exceptional facilities we have built to bring the best of our tribe to you. However, our most important investment is in the solid foundation represented by the persevering and prevailing Wyandotte people.

From the Second Chief

Norman Hildebrand, Jr.

A return to normalcy possible

Kweh,
 Wyandotte Citizens I hope you all are healthy and enjoying the weather in your respective areas. Our California Wyandottes are experiencing almost everything that Mother Nature can throw at them, hopefully they will get some relief from the drought condi-

tions that has hit the entire Western United States.

I know everyone is tired of hearing about COVID and I am certainly tired of talking about it, but the only way to get back to some sort of normalcy is for as many people as possible to get vaccinated. There are a lot of people who

are against getting vaccinated for one reason or another, but the bottom line is COVID has killed over 700,000 people in the United States alone. It



2nd Chief

Continued from Page 2

is the worst pandemic to have ever plagued this country, but we have the means to really slow it down or maybe even stop it, and that is the vaccine.

There are big things happening here at the Wyandotte Nation. The pharmacy expansion at Bearskin Clinic is weeks ahead of schedule, our new drive-thru COVID testing and vaccination building is almost finished, the infrastructure for Turtle Hill Estates is progressing nicely and phase 2 at Wyandotte Ridge has been completed. The Nutrition Center, otherwise known as Title VI, opened back up Oct. 12 to serve lunches to Native American elders in our area. I am looking forward to that myself as Brenda and her staff do a fantastic job of feeding and looking out for our elders.

Recently, the history of the deaths of so many Native American children at boarding schools across the U.S. and Canada was brought up in the news. It is certainly another dark moment in the history of this nation when it comes to the American Indian, so here is a little history about the infamous boarding schools:

Beginning in the 19th century, boarding schools played a fundamental cycle in the programs designed by the U.S. government to foster the assimilation of native peoples into the mainstream of American society. Reformers and politicians who favored the policy of reservation allotment also advanced the concept of placing Indian children in residential schools where they would speak English, learn a vocation, and practice farming. Advocates of boarding schools argued that industrial training, in combination with several years of isolation from family, would diminish the influence of tribalism on a new generation of American Indians. For 50 years after the first

federally administered residential school was established in 1879 at Carlisle, Pa., thousands of Native American children and youth were sent to live, work, and be educated in the schools.

Boarding-school attendance increased dramatically when Congress increased funding for Indian education in the 1870s. The Indian Industrial School at Carlisle was the most well-known of the Indian boarding schools, and developed a reputation for athleticism and winning football teams. Jim Thorpe, the most famous Native American athlete of the 20th century, was a student at Carlisle when he won the decathlon and pentathlon during the Olympic Games in Sweden in 1912. Indian students like Thorpe were recruited to Pennsylvania from many tribes and regions in the West. Carlisle's founder, Richard Henry Pratt, a former officer in the U.S. military, designed the simple boarding-school program. Ideally, students were to spend half the day in the classroom and the remainder in manual labor. The vocationally oriented "outing program" was also a trademark of Pratt's that many other school's adopted. His goal was encapsulated in the phrase "Kill the Indian and save the man."

The transition to boarding-school life seldom came smoothly for Indian children. The experience was punctuated by the trauma of separation from family and community, bouts of homesickness, and a difficult period of adjustment to a new environment. The loneliness students experienced was compounded by harsh policies that strictly regulated visits home. Officials limited the frequency and duration of children's visits to their families, contending that relatives and other community members would hinder the work of assimilation, or that newly reformed and educated students would lapse into their for-

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."

--Chief Sitting Bull

mer "degraded" lifestyles. For Indian children, it often meant an extended stay of four years or more at school. Inflexible boarding-school regulations developed into a source of conflict between parents and school officials. As one mother complained to a school superintendent at the Flandreau Boarding School in South Dakota, where her daughter resided, "It seems that it would be much easier to get her out of prison than out of your school."

The boarding-school setting also proved to be conducive to the spread of disease. Many of the Indian deaths during the great influenza pandemic of 1918, which hit the Native American population hard, took place in boarding schools. At Haskell alone, over 300 students grew critically ill, and many died. In the early 20th century trachoma, the contagious and painful eye diseases, afflicted nearly half of the boarding-school population.

Tuberculosis was also commonplace in government boarding schools, where disease and healthy students intermingled. Little effort was made to provide afflicted children with special care to enriched diets. In letters to their family members, students sometimes complained of poor health. In 1924 a young student from Ashland, Wisc., requested that she be sent to a tuberculosis sanatorium rather than attend school while suffering the effects of the disease. The girl, miserable because of painful lesions on her legs that refused to heal, complained about the constant drilling and marching that was so much a part of the boarding-school regimen. The student tried to reason with her superintendent when she said: "How do you expect me to learn and study when

I suffer so? . . . Would you rather have me go away to a sanatorium and get well and there I can learn and be happy or, have me going to school and suffer?" By 1924, when this letter was written, students with tuberculosis had long been "officially" excluded from attending government boarding schools.

Native American parents often charged boarding schools with ravaging the health of their children. In letters to school superintendents and sometimes to the Indian Office in Washington, parents complained about the outing programs, the long days, the work details, and the fact that boarding schools relied heavily on unpaid student labor for their operation. Some parents grew so concerned about the deteriorating health of their children that they refused to return them to boarding schools. The father of another student wrote to Flandreau in 1913 to explain his son's absence in September. The man, a cattle rancher, simply said he "preferred to have a live cowboy rather than a dead scholar." Unfortunately, hundreds of Native American children did not survive the boarding-school experience. Many Indian schools, including Haskell, Carlisle, Chemawa (in Oregon), and others, maintained cemeteries to bury the many Indian children who succumbed to sickness and disease. There is an investigation going on right now into the burials on boarding-school properties.

A quick note: I get my information for my articles from many different sources, take for instance in the last Turtle Talk, The Death of Jane McCrea, 1777, I used the book written by Lloyd Divine "On the Back of a Turtle" for that bit of history. If you don't have Lloyd's book in your library at home it is a very good source for Wyandotte History, and I urge you to pick up a copy.



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"We were working for a cause so our people could know their history." – Juanita McQuiston

Remembering Juanita

Wyandotte Nation's real life 'Rosie the Riveter' played pivotal role in where the Tribe is today

BY WILLIAM SWAIM
WYANDOTTE NATION

To sum up Juanita McQuiston, you would need more words than this article could possibly provide. She was a historian and genealogist for the Wyandotte Nation; served on the Tribe's Grievance Committee and the Board of Directors for more than 20 years; was a member of the Rebekah Lodge; served on the Citizen Committee for Urban Renewal; was a homeroom Mother for McKinley School; did office work for Wayne Pack; and was a real life 'Rosie the Riveter.'

Juanita was instrumental in helping the Tribe become what it is today, preserving and collecting key records in the 1960s during the termination era, keeping the history of the Tribe alive throughout her involvement, and most recently, served on the Board of Directors until she passed from this life Sept. 17, 2021. Juanita was 94.

"Juanita was part of the glue that held the tribe together for many years," said Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend. "She dedicated countless unpaid hours over several decades keeping our records, history and other information protected. She was instrumental in helping lay the foundation of which we continue to build upon today."

'Juanita the Riveter'

Juanita was born April 19, 1927, in Wyandotte, Okla., to Grover E. and Palma Mae (Ellison) McQuiston, Sr.

Her family eventually moved to Pawnee, Okla., where Juanita grew up near the reservation there, before moving to Wichita, Kansas.

This is where she went to work in an aircraft plant and became the Wyandotte Nation's real life 'Rosie the Riveter.'

The flexed-arm, bandanna-clad

Rosie the Riveter was part of a campaign in World War II aimed at recruiting female workers for defense industries, and Rosie became arguably the most iconic image of working women.

Juanita attended one semester of high school before dropping out and moving to Wichita to work at a hospital.

"Well, I found out I could make more money working in a defense plant," Juanita said during a video interview with Tribal Heritage Director Sherri Clemons. "I put an application in, and I took training for two weeks to work in the defense plant."

Juanita worked on the jigs for the air flaps. She also worked on stabilizers, and in turn, had worked with rivets and had to know the different sizes for the different jobs.

"Yeah, I was like Rosie the Riveter," Juanita said laughing. She was 15-16 years old at the time.

While she could laugh during the interview, at the time, worry over her brothers is what filled her days.

"They (defense plant) come and



WILLIAM SWAIM | WYANDOTTE NATION
Juanita McQuiston during a video interview with Tribal Heritage Director Sherri Clemons.

told us we're going to have to work a week at a time. Well, we knew then things were getting bad," she said.

"What we did at noon time, we all had a sack lunch together, and we would pray for our men who were in service. Everybody there had people in service... brothers, fathers, mothers, and all. We would open up one of the doors to the outside to get fresh air, and we would all stand there and pray for all the men in service. And I was just scared to death I would never see my brothers again."

The Early Days with the Tribe

After her work at the aircraft plant, she returned to Oklahoma where she met and married Leon McQuiston. The two were married until his passing in 2017. They had four children, Carol Rentfrow, Oresa

King, and Leon McQuiston, Jr. all of Miami, OK, and Anita Vandiver of Okesa, OK.

Juanita was always interested in Indian history from her days living in Pawnee, so following a visit from Wyandotte Chief Lawrence Zane in the early 1960s, she began working with the Tribe.

Wyandotte Nation Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, Jr., said she was one of the last Tribal elders that helped keep the Wyandotte Nation going during the termination era.

"My chief thing was trying to find records, because we didn't have any," Juanita said about her time in the 60s. "I spent days looking up records at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which back then was at the Post Office.

"I wanted to try and get all the books registered that I knew we had within the Tribe. ... So I was on the

Juanita

Continued from Page 4

hunt for anything that pertained to the Wyandotte Nation that would tell us about our people.”

She said other than the preservation of Wyandotte heritage, the health of tribal citizens was something she and others focused on during that time.

“We found out a lot of the Indians didn’t have the money, no cars to take them to Claremore to be doctored down there because they didn’t have the money to go,” she said. “So we met at this little house at the Seneca Indian School and it was where they had the Indian girls trained in economics.

“We wanted to do something about education and try to get us a clinic, a close place where the Indians could come and be treated for different things.”

She said they finally got established there and the doctors from Claremore would come in a station wagon and back up to this little house.

“Whatever doctor came in the station wagon would treat the patients who were the sickest and we would all unload the things that was in the station wagon,” she said, adding that it included all the supplies the clinic needed.

She also recounted a story going to the clinic later on – let’s just say, Juanita was someone you didn’t mess with.

“I took my son down there, we went in and told the lady we wanted to see the doctor, I wanted to see

the doctor for my son. I gave her my name,” Juanita said. “She looked at me, and she said, ‘you are not eligible at this clinic.’ I said, ‘I’m not!’ All right, you write me a letter and tell me why I am not eligible, and you and the doctor sign it and date it.’ She said, ‘who are you?’ I said, ‘it makes no difference who I am, I am just an Indian needing medical help.’

“We went to see the doctor and there was nothing else said. But when I got home, I called Leonard Cotter up and told him what happened, and I said ‘you get rid of that woman. If you don’t, and if I go down there, and she is there, you just look out.’”

Serving the Tribe

Juanita was featured in an article for the 1996 Pow-Wow Program as the Pow-Wow was dedicated in her honor, that stated: If you want to know anything about the history of the Wyandotte Tribe, ask Juanita, if she doesn’t know, she will find out. She was the Ka-We-Ne-Ha-We (Keeper of Traditions).

It was that drive to learn about her heritage and preserve it in the 60s that continued throughout her time serving the Tribe in a variety of ways. Her work with Clemons and others in preserving that history was something she cherished.

“I loved it, I loved every bit of it,” Juanita said. “We were working for a cause so our people could know their history.”

Clemons said she will be greatly missed.

“Juanita was so dedicated to the nation as a whole. She wanted everyone to know who their people were and where they came from,” Clemons said. “She loved the Wyandotte people.”

It was not only her love of history and the past that drove Juanita, it was also the Tribe’s future that was important to her and she played a vital role by serving on the Board of Directors until her passing.

Second Chief Hildebrand said he would take her board packet to her when she was in the nursing home, and he would often sit and visit with her. He said her knowledge was endless and they would learn something new from her at every board meeting.

“Needless to say she led quite a life from living on the Pawnee Reservation to becoming our own Rosie the Riveter to serving on the Board of Directors for many years,” Second Chief Hildebrand said. “Getting to know this lady and serving on the Board of Directors with her was an education and an extreme honor. The dedication and service she gave to



COURTESY PHOTO

Juanita McQuiston pictured in a 1996 Pow-Wow Program article as the Pow-Wow was dedicated in honor of her.

the Wyandotte Nation was not out of duty but out of the love she had for the Wyandotte people.”

What Juanita did for the Tribe won’t end with her passing.

“Juanita made an immeasurable positive impact upon the Wyandotte Nation that will continue on for years to come,” Chief Friend said.

NEWS & NOTES

Bartley, Scribner retire from Turtle Tots program

The Wyandotte Nation Turtle Tots are saying goodbye to two long-time educators in Debbie Scribner and Sharon Bartley – but the two, who have had such an impact on the lives of many youth, aren’t completely going away after their recent retirement announcements. Debbie was honored for her 13-plus years of service to the Wyandotte Nation and Bartley for her 32-plus years. The two have agreed to substitute so they will still impact so many more.

“Sharon and Debbie were both great assets to the Education team,” said Wyandotte Nation Education Director Cristi Hudson. “Always willing to help anywhere that help was needed. If any of us had a question, we knew we could



count on them for the answer.

“Most of all, they loved the kids and their families. They have each impacted so many lives during their time with us! We are grateful they have both



agreed to sub for us so we will continue getting to work alongside them on occasion.”

The Tribe held retirement parties for both who impacted so many lives.

NEWS & NOTES



COURTESY PHOTO

Tribal citizen Mia Matthews is pictured in the front row, right center.

Tribal citizen recognized as program scholar

The College Board, the company that administers the SAT, PSAT, and AP tests, honored 14 students from Academic Magnet High School as part of their National African American, National Hispanic, and National Indigenous Recognition Programs. Wyandotte Nation tribal citizen Mia Matthews was one of those scholars recognized by the Board.

"I believe that [Academic] Magnet has greatly prepared me for college because the workload is definitely intense," explained senior Mia Matthews, daughter of Brandy Streeter-Matthews, granddaughter of Gary and Robin Streeter. "The amount of work and the emphasis to create good work has made me ready for the real world and helped me with life skills that I need to improve on before college, like time management."

Students who may be eligible have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have excelled on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP Exams; and are African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latin, Indigenous, and/or attend school in a rural area or small town.

Wyandotte Nation awarded library grant

The Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded the Wyandotte Nation \$136,552 to address community needs based on results from a three-year strategic plan involving tribal leadership and the rural, tribal community. The project will create a literacy station to provide early, digital, and other literacies to youth and their families; the formation of a LEGO club to conduct science, technology, reading, engineering, arts, and mathematics lessons; and family event nights with culture and native craft lessons to advance cultural and civic engagement.

Keffer recognized as Honored Person

As an elder of the Wyandotte Nation, Tom is a retired archaeologist who has spent many years digging into the histories and 'footprint' left by the various cultures.

Tom has stated he has always been struck by the notion that a grave marker is many times the only physical reminder of a person. This realization is what inspired him to take on the task of cleaning, repairing and preserving the many grave markers in the cemeteries of the Wyandotte Nation.

Tom started with a tribal cemetery in Wyandotte and then progressed to three other area cemeteries. He is now working on the grave markers of Wyandotte peoples interred in the Huron/Wyandotte Cemetery in Kansas City, Kansas.

More than three years into his mis-



WILLIAM SWAIM | WYANDOTTE NATION

Chief Friend and Second Chief Hildebrand, Jr. honor Tom Keffer as its Honored Person at the Annual Meeting Saturday, Sept. 11.

sion, Tom has donated countless hours to ensuring the many hundreds of the Wyandotte ancestors' grave markers are fresh and preserved for years to come.

He is an inspiring, self-appointed steward of the Wyandotte tribal past and its future to come.



WILLIAM SWAIM | WYANDOTTE NATION

Chief Friend signs the proclamation with Advocate/Educator Supervisor Lisa Arnold.

Chief signs proclamation to raise awareness for domestic violence

Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend signs a Proclamation from the Tribe for its support in raising awareness to the problem of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault. Also pictured is Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Advocate/Educator Supervisor Lisa Arnold, and Victim Advocates Cesilie Chandler and

Katie Griffin. The signing was held at the new Administration Building's patio area.

Our Family Violence Prevention Program Advocates also hosted a 'Lunch & Learn' and shared a story of survival in a case of domestic violence. Arnold shared the story, showing the trauma from abuse, the difficulties facing a survivor, the importance of advocacy, and hope.

Check out the video from the proclamation signing on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/WyandotteNation.

Tribe donates to Sheriff's Office

We donated \$60,000 to the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department for the purchase of a new patrol vehicle for the department. Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend, Second Chief Norman Hildebrand, and Board of Directors members Ramona Reid, Vivian Fink and Eric Lofland presented the check to Ottawa County Sheriff David Dean.

"We've always said that wherever we are at, we want to be a good neighbor," said Chief Friend, adding that the Wyandotte Nation Tribal Police Department works closely with the Sheriff's Department. "We are a strong supporter of law enforcement, now more than ever."

The Wyandotte Nation Board of Directors approved the donation at their recent meeting. Funding for the donation came from our economic development provided by our corporation, Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (WTOK).

Have news? Share it with us! If you have news, accomplishments or something to share, please email your news and photos to: wswaim@wyandotte-nation.org.

TRIBAL CITIZEN ENROLLMENT

197 New Tribal Citizens

Full Name
Abdel Wahab, Nesmah Mamdouh
Adair-Nesvold, Maxwell Hunter
Adams, Briar Burke
Agee, Alexander Rowan
Almarzan, Everleigh Rose
Arment, Journi James Ellen
Armstrong, Danilyn Paige
Ayers, Tavin Raelynn
Badley, Abigail Elizabeth Grace
Bagnell, Onyx Alexzander
Baranco, Scottlyn May
Basilere, Azaria Naelynn
Basilere, Shaylynn Anastacia
Beesley, Christian Dane
Behrens, Brawner Rhett
Behrens, Townsend Brady
Benner, Hunter Ray
Big Eagle, Jacquelyn Starr Valliere
Bond, Beau Wayne
Bond, Robert Michael Ralston
Bowers, Alayna Martina
Branson, Dixie Ann
Brown, Abigail Serene
Brumback, Carson Daniel
Bryce, Adam Baila
Burt, Ulises Christopher
Buss, Carson James
Campbell, Payton Faith
Carter, Adalynn Faye
Carter, Maxine Emersyn
Cather, Adriel Thomas
Cather, Anthony Jay
Cather, Nathan Michael
Cather, Roman Erik
Chittum, Rhett Tanner
Clark, Miles Jackson
Collier, Amelia Elliott
Conrow, Paisley Joann
Cook, Isabel Sophia
Cordes, Kaidi Dawn
Corsbie, Silas Archer Daniel
Cox, Charlie Ever Green
Cox, Kristopher Roy
Crotzer, Carrington Rae
Crotzer, James Ryan
Cruz-Girard, Liam Andres
Dailey, David Scott
Davidson, Bentley Noah
Davidson, Cayden Wayne-Brian
Davies, Evelyn Jade
Davies, Madalyn Jane
Deffenbaugh, Hallie Grace

Demarsh, Isabella Blake
Donley Hurtack, Orion Xavier Mathias
Drake, Ryker Lane
Drake-Bertram, Wyatt James
Duffy, Jack Ryan
Easley, Rosanna Grace
Esposito, Myles Ross
Evans, Jameson Ryder
Farmer, Everly Lynn
Ferrara, Amara Ray-Ann
Folger, Holley Nicholle
Ford, Brixlynn Rae
Franklin, Caleb Lawrence
Franklin, Cody Lawrence
Franklin, Hunter Gauge
Frazier, Katelynn Nicole
Frazier, Riley Paige
Friberg, Olivia Mae
Friend, Cohen Eli
Friend, Emrys Asa
Friend, Ohlsdi Usdi
Fuentes, Elias Sebastian
Gambino, Waylon Natale
Gehrke, Heidi Marie
Gong, Charlie Mayer
Grewe, Owen Williams
Griffin, Insley Delaphine Rose
Guerra, Lilith RoseVivia Vida
Guzman-Ludwig, Easton Nicolas Reed
Hall, Adelyn Faye
Hall, Colton Reed
Hall, Tanner Drake
Harris, Montana James
Havens, Abel Layne
Hendrix, Katherine Kay
Hoag, Noah Tyler
Holland, Cameron Lee
Holloway, Blaine Wilder
Isaacs, William Asher
Jackson, Emmitt Lee
Jackson, Gina Raylynn
Jackson, Kinley Rena
Jackson, Rowe Marie
James, Merrick Reed Alan
Jeans, Kennedy Reese
Johnston, Everett Patrick
Johnston, Sophie Rebecca
Keefer, Mercedes Mae
Keown, Whitney Brooke
King, Cannon Dillon
King, Kristopher Donald

King, Tatum Jillayne
King, Tyler Holden
Kirichenko, Vera Evelyn
Koon, Kollins Ava Grace
Kramme, Bayly Madison
Kramme, Peyton Michael
Lamb, Dakson James
Lamb, Haislee Marie
Lankston, Luca Letty
Lantis, Joseph William
Lewin, Lisa Marie
Lewis-Murray, Harrison Eugene
Ling, Naryan Lucias
Lofland, Arya Dawn
Lynch, Oaklynn Laramie
Maggard, Charlie Walker
Maggard, Houston Thomas
Martarano, Sophia Genevieve-Dianne
Mascarenas, Eli Valzar
McIntosh, Ashley Ann
McInain, Lily Grace
McQuiston, Cooper Don
Mertens, Merida Kelly Ruth
Milbeck, Remi Layne
Miller, Ajay Ivan
Miller, David Jake
Miller, Payton Rae
Miller, Penny Lynn
Mills, Brock William
Mitchell, Makai Avery
Mix, Aaron Michael
Mix, Kurt Alexander
Moore, Esmeralda Lyn Marie
Moran, Hope Elizabeth
Moran, Melody Jan
Nielebock, Owyn Emylea
Nugent, Kinsley Lee
Oakley, Ava Michelle
Oakley, Kyle Patrick
Olson, Imalyn Mae
Ortiz, Maya Elora
Pauls, Aubry Lynn
Payne, Edie Jeanne
Peterson, Penelope Jane
Phelps, Addilyn Reece
Phelps, Caitlin Taylor
Phelps, Charlotte Noel
Pisciotta, Bowen Anthony
Porter, Paxton Gage
Porter, Zachary Zane

Power, Sylvia Niamh
Rakestraw, Banks Ivey
Ramirez, Cierra Monique
Rasor, Finley Lou
Reid, Oliver Ricardo
Reid, Raya Love
Reimer, Jameson Cash
Roberts, Lexi Zavia
Robitaille, Arissa Lynn
Rodriguez, Alexander Amador
Rodriguez, Jasmine Michelle
Rosengrants, Braelyn Mykelle
Rosengrants, Brody Leighton
Sams, Sutton Blake
Sanderson, Georgia Beatrice
Shadowens, Boone Tucker
Slack, Brooke Anne
Spain, Ezra Kai
Steadman, Kalliope Willow Faith
Steadman, Kora Kashtyn Marie
Steadman, Kroften Eric Wayne
Summitt, Jaxtyn Carter
Symons, Bode James
Thomas, Margaret Josephine Faye
Thompson, Emma Jean
Tussinger, Lyric Jacob
Van Dam, Josiah Nicholas
Vigus, Dani Marie
Vigus, Daphne Evelyn
Wadino, Justis Robert
Wallis, Joelle Olivia
Wallis, Poppy Abigail
Weeks, Byron Boyd
Wells, Clara Leeann
Weston, Peyton Marie
Whitaker, Colton Eric
White, Lillie Ann
Whorton, Oliver Mac
Wilder, Ezra Taylor
Williams, Mya Zaylean
Wilson, Blakely Diane
Yoksh, Jettzyn Christian
Young, Cora Jane
Young, Reagan Nicole

6,883
Total Tribal
Enrollment

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Human Resources

Submitted by Deana Howard, HR Director

The Wyandotte Nation Police Department is proud to welcome Jacob Hamblett. He graduated from Gardner Edgerton High School in Gardner, Kansas. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, Sociology with minors in Psychology and Computer Information Systems. Jacob has worked in Law Enforcement since 2014. He enjoys spending time with his family, going to the lake, and in his spare time enjoys sports. Football is his favorite sport and he played for 15 years, including playing at Kansas Wesleyan University. We are very fortunate to have Officer Hamblett and wish him much success in his new position.



HAMBLETT

The Education Department is very happy to welcome Jennifer McCloud as the Early Childhood Nurse, Melissa Wieneke as an Early Childhood Toddler Program Assistant, and Catherine Robles as an Early Childhood Food Service Cook.

Jennifer is a registered nurse, has worked in Cardiology for the past five years and part-time in the mental health field. In her spare time, she enjoys playing with her children and dogs, spending time with her family and friends, anything outdoors, going on adventures to old and new places, and making memories. She is excited to join the Wyandotte Nation Family and looks forward to getting to know everyone.



MCLOUD



WIENEKE

Melissa has worked with the Wyandotte Public Schools for seven years. She enjoys spending time



ROBLES

to cook. Catherine transferred from one of our other entities. She has two children and enjoys spending time with her family. She says she was blessed with great parents, has great kids and beautiful grandkids, she loves taking care of them and others.

We are very fortunate to have Jennifer, Melissa, and Catherine on our team and wish them the best of luck in their new positions.

The Wyandotte Nation Education Department would also like to welcome tribal citizen Kaylee Arment back as a part-time Afterschool Childcare Assistant, and Cheyenne Hoover as a part-time Afterschool Childcare Assistant.



ARMENT



HOOVER

Kaylee has worked in the Education Department as Summer Youth and part-time Afterschool Childcare Assistant. Kaylee enjoys beading, spending time with her friends and family in her spare time. Kaylee is a lifetime local resident of the Wyandotte area.

We are happy to have Kaylee rejoin our team.

Cheyenne is a senior in high school and is currently enrolled in the Cosmetology Program at Vo-Tech. Her hobbies include biking, fishing and hiking. Cheyenne enjoys spending time with her family and friends. We are happy to have Cheyenne join our team.

Terri Wyrick and Twana Wiens have joined the Wyandotte Nation as Infant Caregivers.

playing games and watching movies with her family. In her spare time, she enjoys puzzles.

Catherine comes to us with 15-plus years of previous food service experience with 12 years catering, and loves



WYRICK



WIENS

Terri graduated from Welch High School and has certificates in Microsoft and Business Administration. She enjoys spending time with her husband, sons and their families. In her spare time, she enjoys crafting, scrapbooking, Christmas crafts and wreaths.

Twana has a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology from Evangel University. She worked in the human service field for six years.

She had an in-home daycare for five years, and worked for the school district. She enjoys spending time with her sons and her significant other. She is originally from Grove, Okla.

We are pleased to have Terri and Twana join our Education Department and wish them much success in their new positions.

The Bearskin Fitness Center is very excited to welcome Grant Nolte, Jorge Moreno, and Gage Hollingshead to the team.

Grant will serve as a Fitness Front Desk Assistant/Childcare Provider. Grant is attending Rogers State University online. In his spare time, he enjoys watching NBA games and working out.



NOLTE



MORENO

Jorge will serve as a Fitness Substitute. He served in the Army and brings many skills to this position. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time fishing, working, and working out. Jorge also enjoys walking trails.

Gage was re-



HOLLINGSHEAD

cently hired as a part-time Youth Program Assistant for the Youth Program at the fitness center. In his spare time, Gage enjoys hunting, fishing, and power lifting. He also enjoys spending time with his family/friends, being outside helping his grandma with yardwork, and playing video games. We are very fortunate to have Gage join our team.

We are very fortunate to have Grant, Jorge, and Gage on our team and wish them much success in their new positions.

Family Services

Submitted by Dana Butterfield, Family Services Director

The Family Services Department has many programs and services to offer tribal citizens. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us. Be sure to visit the Wyandotte Nation website www.wyandotte-nation.org and follow the Wyandotte Nation Facebook page to stay up-to-date on events and program announcements that will be posted in between issues of the newsletters.

Winter Programs:

Children's Christmas Party
– Once again, the Children's Christmas Party is going to be a drive thru event. The party will be held Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 am to Noon at the new Administration Complex, lower level. Be sure to follow the website and Facebook for details about traffic flow and what to expect. The big news for 2021 is that the age limit has been increased to include enrolled Wyandotte Nation children ages 15 and under! Each child will receive a gift from Santa and tribal guardians/parents, who are present with their eligible children, will receive a \$25 Walmart gift card (1 per household). Santa will be onsite to

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wish the children Merry Christmas as they pass through the line!

Winter Clothing – Starts Nov. 1 and ends Feb. 28. This program is available to OK, MO, AR, KS residents for reimbursement or Walmart gift card of \$100 per student. Applications, along with guidelines, will be available on the home page of the Tribe's website. Please note there are separate applications for the gift card and reimbursement program. Be sure to read the instruction letter that will accompany the applications as there are changes for the program. If you did not return your receipts for either the School Supplies or last year's Winter Clothing gift cards, you will be required to use the reimbursement program this year. Incomplete applications will be returned to the sender.

Senior Energy (Winter) – This program is available nationwide. \$100 will be paid directly to the utility provider for citizens who are 55 and older. Program dates are Oct. 1 through Feb. 28. Citizens are encouraged to continue to pay their bills as normal and a \$100 credit will display on their statement when the payment has been processed.

LIHEAP – LIHEAP is a federal grant-funded program. If funding is received, services will be available beginning Dec. 1 for tribal citizens who reside in Oklahoma. This program is income-based and proof of income and other documentation is required.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE PROGRAMS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POST MARKED BY Feb. 28 TO BE ELIGIBLE AND BILLS/RECEIPTS MUST BE DATED BETWEEN OCT. 1, 2021 AND FEB. 28, 2022 – NO EXCEPTIONS.

Elders Assistance – Beginning Oct. 1, 2021 this program is available to all enrolled Wyandotte Nation citizens nationwide who are age 55 and older. This program can assist with such items as, but not limited to: rent, utilities, household expenses, auto repair, personal needs, etc. Payment can be made directly to the tribal citizen with qualifying receipts or can be paid directly to a vendor.

Winter Clothing Program Information

Application dates Nov. 1, 2021 – Feb. 28, 2022
Receipts can be dated between Oct. 1 and Feb. 28

- Program is available to enrolled citizens 18 (enrolled in high school) and under who reside in the states of Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas.
- All purchases need to be rang up separately for each child!
- Please only have program eligible items on each child's receipts and there should only be one child's purchases on any receipt that is submitted with the application.
- Allowable purchases include: coats, gloves, earmuffs, scarves, winter hats (no ball caps), pants, shirts, socks, underwear, pajamas and shoes/boots.
- Unallowable purchases include, but are not limited to: shorts, swim wear, food or accessories, i.e. hair care products, jewelry, perfume, make-up. If you have any questions as to what is eligible, please feel free to call the Family Services staff at any time.
- You must show \$100 for each child on the Walmart card program. For example: don't spend \$50 on one child and use the remainder of their card on another child's purchases.
- For online purchases: Must send full receipt/full email. No screen shots or partial receipts. Receipts must show purchase date, individual item price, subtotal, tax and payment information (visa/store card/paypal, etc.). The order summary is not enough as these usually only show estimated taxes. Also, when you add up the receipts on the application be sure figure in the discounts and promotions on your amounts.

Remember... individual receipts for each child, with program eligible items only. Please don't include other grocery shopping items or other family member clothing items on receipt.

The Following programs run throughout the year for residents in OK, MO, AR and KS. Applications must be received or post-marked by Sept. 30:

Extra-Expense/Extracurricular Activities – One-time payment of \$100 per student aged pre – K (at least 3 years of age) through 12th grade.

Jr/Sr Benefit - \$250 benefit for expenses associated with Juniors and Seniors in High School. Benefits can be used for both years.

Fuel Assistance – Fuel assistance programs include: Hardship – personal hardships, travel for work/job interviews, etc; Medical – travel to/from doctor/dental appointments

and pick up prescriptions; Major Medical – extreme medical issues (must be life threatening, terminal, etc. not chronic medical issues) that require multiple trips outside of the local area. The program provides fuel vouchers through the Turtle Stop convenience store for local tribal citizens or tribal citizens who travel to the Bearskin Healthcare and Wellness Center.

Other Programs provided by the Family Services Department:

Child Safety Seats - Each child is eligible for three seats in different sizes and must be picked up at the tribal office. We make every effort to keep all car seat sizes on hand. Call in advance to make sure we have the correct seat size available.

Promoting Safe & Stable Families/Indian Child Welfare – This program is funded through a federal grant from the Administration for Children and Families. It is designed to help keep children in their homes with the family or ensure that if there is a need for removal that federal guidelines are adhered to and the best interest of the child is first and foremost. If your family is in a situation where the state is involved, please contact either of the ICW Social Workers. The Tribe is continually seeking foster families. If you're interested in sharing your home with a child in need, please contact Tara or Carmalita at the numbers listed below.

Enrollment – Aug. 15 is the deadline to be considered for enrollment at the 2022 Annual Meeting. Applications must be submitted along with an original state certified birth certificate. Applications can be submitted at any during the year and birth certificates will be returned within 10-14 business days.

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

Tribal Tags – Available for tribal citizens who reside in Oklahoma. Passenger, RV, Motorcycle and

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Handicap tags are available. Please call the office for prices and additional information. All new requests must be accompanied by the original title and proof of insurance. Renewals require a proof of insurance. Incomplete requests will be returned to the tribal citizen.

Supplemental Health Benefit (Benny Card) – This program has been renewed and accounts will be reloaded Jan. 1, 2022. The benefits will be the same as previous years with a \$1,000 per year benefit for adult (18 and older) tribal citizens. Tribal citizens who have enrolled Wyandotte Nation dependents will receive an additional \$1,000 for a maximum of \$2,000 per account. Individuals who were voted into citizenship at the Annual Meeting will receive their account information in December and accounts will be active Jan. 1, 2022. Trustmark mails an annual statement in December to show remaining balances. Account balances can also be obtained by calling 800-990-9058 ext 42086. There is also a handy app for smart phones where you can check balances, scan in-store items to check eligibility and file reimbursement claims. Please see the Nation's website for a flyer detailing the steps to set-up accounts on the app. As a reminder for the end-of-year program, 2021 funds must be expended by Dec. 31. There is not a grace period for the use of the debit card. If the card is used Jan. 1 or after, the funds will come out of the 2022 allowance. If you have 2021 charges you need to claim after Jan.

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

1, you will need to make the payment, then file for a reimbursement no later than Feb. 28, 2022.

Burial Assistance - The benefit amount for this program was increased to \$2,000 for any deaths that occur after Oct. 1, 2021. An application is required along with a copy of the death certificate and a statement from the funeral home/crematory. Payment can be made directly to the service provider or to the family representative with proof of payment. Applications must be submitted within 90 days of the tribal citizen's death.

Family Violence Prevention Program (FVPP): This program is funded through grants from the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW), Family Violence Prevention Safety Act/Administration for Children and Families and Office of Victims of Crime. Funds can be used to provide advocacy to individuals who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, human trafficking and stalking. In 2021, we added an advocate to assist with cases of elder abuse and the tribal Crime Victims Advocate, Kristi Johnston, relocated from the Police Department to Family Services. Kristi is able to assist all victims of crimes, which will be a valuable asset to the program.

Services for victims include shelter, utilities, food, clothing, transportation, court accompaniment, counseling, legal assistance, etc. and can be provided to victims who reside within a 25-mile radius of the Wyandotte Nation headquarters. Victims do not need to be Wyandotte or Native to receive services.

On Oct. 12, Chief Friend signed a proclamation declaring that the Wyandotte Nation would honor October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. On Oct. 19, the staff hosted a Lunch and Learn titled "A Case Study on Domestic Violence" and on the 23rd the Annual Scarecrow 5K and Fun Run was held, with donations of personal care items taken in lieu of entry fee, which were then donated to the local women's shelter.

Tiny Homes: Two Tiny homes have been added to the Heritage Acres housing community and are currently being used for the purpose

of quarantine for individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 and need a safe place to stay away from their family.

Family Services Staff:

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

Family Services Specialist, Leanna Radabaugh, 918-678-6329, lradabaugh@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

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

DV/SA Advocate, Cesilie Chandler, 918-678-3269, cchandler@wyandotte-nation.org

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

Crime Victims Advocate, Kristi Johnston, 918-678-6340

Family Services email: wnfs@wyandotte-nation.org

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

Education

Submitted by Cristi Hudson, Education Director

Kweh,
The Education Building Renovation Project is underway! We are excited to get this process started and be back in our building by the spring of 2022. The Library will be closed during renovation. While the Library is closed, I encourage you to look into the virtual library we have to offer. If you have access to the internet, you may create an account and visit our virtual library at www.okvirtuallibrary.overdrive.com.

By doing this, you will 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 began the preschool year Aug. 18. With the Education Building closed, other departments within Wyandotte Nation have offered us different spaces in their buildings to allow us to continue the school year with preschool and childcare available. We are still accepting applications to be placed on a waiting list for all age groups: infants, toddlers, preschool, and before/after school. You may contact Lindsay Cooper for an application by email, lcooper@wyandotte-nation.org or by phone 918-6748-3267.

Wyandotte Nation Scholarship Program is proud to share with you an increase in both the Undergraduate and Masters Scholarship amounts. Both scholarships have been increased to \$3,000 per semester beginning with the fall 2021 semester. If you are on our Masters Scholarship Program, we will be mailing out the additional \$1,500 this week. We will begin processing spring 2021 semester scholarships the end of December. If you are currently on the scholarship program, once the fall semester is over you will need to email, mail, or fax our Education Specialist, Evan Hotulke your latest transcript. Your transcript will need to include your fall 2021 grades and your spring 2022 schedule.

Wyandotte Nation Undergraduate Scholarship reminders:

- Undergraduate scholarships are limited to eight 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.

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To obtain an Undergraduate or Masters Scholarship application, you can email your request or any questions that you may have to Evan at ehotulke@wyandotte-nation.org; or by calling his office at 918-678-6331. You may also contact Evan for a Wyandotte Nation Stole application. Stoles are available to college graduates that have participated in the Wyandotte Nation Scholarship Program.

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

Elder Services

Submitted by Brenda House, Elder Services Director

We are happy to report that we were able to reopen our building Oct. 12. Good Shepherd Hospice treated everyone with root beer floats. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11:30 am – 1 pm. Participants may dine in or pick up their meals. Our homebound elders will continue receiving home delivered meals.

Our Annual Veteran's Day Lunch and Honors is Wednesday, Nov. 10, beginning at 11 am.

Our Thanksgiving Dinner is Thursday, Nov. 18. We will have turkey, dressing and all the trimmings.

Our Christmas Dinner is Thursday, Dec. 16. We are planning to have Santa hand out our home-made candy and cookies. You still have time to get off the naughty list if you start now.

CAREGIVER

Our Caregiver Support Group meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 am. We have moved the meetings back to our safe room in Title VI. 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, Randee Crouch, Robyn Beaty and Ashley



Webb, Food Service Team Members (918) 678-6328

Planning & Natural Resources

Submitted by Christen Lee, Environmental & Planning Director

The 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 includ-

ing, but not limited to, private well drinking water sampling, and septic assessments for private homeowners. 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.

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

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if you have a community project idea
for a grant.

Environmental

The Environmental Department Staff has been busy with the day-to-day activities and duties. Our water Tech and Tech II personnel had several sampling events to get finished by the end of the fiscal year. They have done a tremendous job working to stay on schedule and working around the obstacles of heavy rains in the spring and summer months, and also with COVID restrictions.

Staff performed site walks on two tribal properties per our EPA GAP Grant. During the site walks we looked for any dumpsites or any other potential environmental issues. We are pleased to say that both properties were free from any issues or concerns.

John Gerhard and Kathleen Welch, along with M&J Services performed three Septic Assessments during the month of September. Of the three assessed, two were found to be working properly, and one system is failing. Our plans are to replace the failing system within the next few months.

Environmental Events

COVID has really put a damper on our education activities and events. We are looking forward to the day when we can safely hold our education events again. We're hoping to be able to hold our Annual Environmental Festival in the spring of 2022.

Events held in October:

- Tire Collection Event at Lost Creek Recycle Center Oct. 18 – 22.
- Booth at the Bearskin Healthcare & Wellness Center Medicare Part D Health Fair, Oct. 22, at the Bordertown Casino Parking lot.

Recycling

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. We would like to thank John Webb from the Education Department for all the help that he provided to us during

the past 3 or 4 months.

The monthly, quarterly and yearly totals for the fiscal year are included in charts with this report.

Meet the Department

I'd like to introduce Jon Quick. Jon has worked for the Wyandotte Na-



QUICK



QUICK

tion for nine years and is our main go to person for the Lost Creek Recycle Center. Jon keeps up with four cardboard trailers, two Alley Cat collection trailers, outside cardboard bins and inside recycle stations at the various offices throughout the tribal complex and recently started picking up the cardboard at the two other Turtle Stop Convenient stores in Grove, Okla., and Seneca, Mo. Along with that, the center has a paper shredder and Jon and other staff spend a lot of time with this process. Jon is also responsible for arranging the pickup and shipping of materials to be sent to SMURFIT Recycling in Arkansas.

Services Provided

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

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@wyandottenation.org

Awarded Grants		
Title	Amount	Purpose of Grant
IMLS Basic Library Services	\$10,000	Enhance existing services for the community by providing current, relevant information through new books, journals, magazine subscriptions, and electronic resources. Library Staff will also be able to participate in professional development conferences.
Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration	\$180,272	Continue efforts to increase access to culturally appropriate and evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder and reduce unmet treatment needs and opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment, and recovery support services.
IMLS Enhancement Grant	\$136,552	Create a literacy station, a LEGO Club to conduct STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) lessons, provide family event nights to include culture and native craft lessons for families, and design and develop Wyandotte heritage and language workbooks.
Office for Victims of Crime	\$422,695	Provide services to crime victims in our tribal community as well as an OVC Advocate, trainings, outreach supplies, and other project costs.
Office of Violence Against Women	\$897,615	Provide two FTE positions, training, supplies, outreach and direct services.

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	TOTAL
CARDBOARD	3278	4337	4190	4312	4330	6474	6461	4501	4422	5974	5304	6664	61747
PLASTIC	449	464	646	409	369	506	756	439	794	442	459	528	6261
ALUMINUM	0	0	302	0	0	314	0	0	339	0	0		955
TIN	0	652	0	0	0	693	612	0	0	0	576		2533
NEWS PAPER	0	694	0	0	0	0	810	0	0	0	0	681	2115
MAGAZINES	0	1129	0	975	0	0	1232	0	0	1111	1113		5960
SHREDDED	1088	0	1164	0	1069	0	1097	1101	1178	5752	2228	3992	18049

Recycling: By the Numbers

1st Quarter	
CARDBOARD	13805
PLASTIC	1556
ALUMINUM	302
TIN	652
NEWS PAPER	694
MAGAZINES	1129
SHREDDED	2252
QTR. TOTAL	20869

7th Quarter	
CARDBOARD	15116
PLASTIC	1284
ALUMINUM	314
TIN	693
NEWS PAPER	0
MAGAZINES	875
SHREDDED	1069
QTR. TOTAL	19451

Yearly Totals		
CARDBOARD		61747
PLASTIC		6261
ALUMINUM		955
TIN		2533
NEWS PAPER		2115
MAGAZINES		5560
SHREDDED		18049
QTR. TOTAL		97220

End Quarter:		
CARDBOARD	15384	
PLASTIC	1989	
ALUMINUM	939	
TIN	612	
NEWS PAPER	810	
MAGAZINES	1232	
SHREDDED	3376	
QTR. TOTAL	23742	

4TH Quarter:	
CARDBOARD	17442
PLASTIC	1429
ALUMINUM	0
TIN	575
NEWS PAPER	611
MAGAZINES	2226
SHREDDED	11952
QTR. TOTAL	33634

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Healthcare

Submitted by Kelly Friend, Health Services Director

Booster shots are only available for some Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine recipients. Only certain populations initially vaccinated with the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine can get a booster shot at this time:

Older adults and 50-64 year old people with medical conditions

People aged 65 years and older and adults 50–64 years with underlying medical conditions should get a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. The risk of severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, and can also increase for adults of any age with underlying medical conditions.

Long-term care setting residents aged 18 years and older

Residents aged 18 years and older of long-term care settings should get a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Because residents in long-term care settings live closely together in group settings and are often older adults with underlying medical conditions, they are at increased risk of infection and severe illness from COVID-19.

People with medical conditions aged 18-49 years

People aged 18–49 years with underlying medical conditions may get a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine based on their individual benefits and risks. Adults aged 18–49 years who have underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. However, that risk is likely not as high as it would be for adults aged 50 years and older who have underlying medical conditions. People aged 18–49 years who have underlying medical conditions may get a booster shot after considering their individual risks and benefits. This recommendation may change in the future as more data become available.

Employees and residents at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission

People aged 18–64 years at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may

Submitted by Kathy DeWeese, Housing Director

There are currently 103 units owned by the Housing Department. Forty-seven units are homeowners, and the remainder are rental units. Two new senior duplexes will be added in the coming year.

All Housing applications are now online. Those include Rental/Homeownership, Home Improvement, Down Payment Assistance, and Well & Septic. If you are interested in housing or any of the other programs offered, please send in a completed application with all proper documentation. Incomplete applications will be returned.

The Community Center is open daily from 8 am - 4:30 pm. Pool tables, a ping-pong table, air hockey, and a variety of board and card games are available for use. The cost of renting the center after hours and on weekends is \$50 for tribal members, and \$75 for non-tribal, with a \$25 cleaning deposit. Several dates have already been reserved. If you are interested in renting the facility, please contact the housing office.

Department Contacts:

Kathy DeWeese- Housing Director

Housing

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program(LIHWAP)

To qualify for LIHWAP assistance, you must meet the income guidelines in the table below and live in Oklahoma:

1 Person Family	2 Person Family	3 Person Family	4 Person Family	5 Person Family	6 Person Family
\$22,926	\$29,980	\$37,034	\$44,088	\$55,142	\$58,196

For family units with more than six (6) members, please contact Wyandotte Nation Housing Department for income guidelines.

Benefit amounts will be determined by a benefit payment matrix.

The program started Oct. 18, 2021, for Wyandotte Nation Tribal Citizens only.

The Wyandotte Nation has a limited amount of funding to help with household water. This program is first come, first served. Each household can only apply with one agency for LIHWAP funds and must live in the state of Oklahoma.

Please call or come by the Housing Office if you would like to apply, 14325 Porcupine Road, Wyandotte, OK 74370. Contact: Kathy 918-678-6339 or Don 918-678-6336.

If you suspect LIHWAP fraud by any individual or entity, you can call the Office of Inspector General at 1-800-447-8477.

Don Graham- Housing Specialist

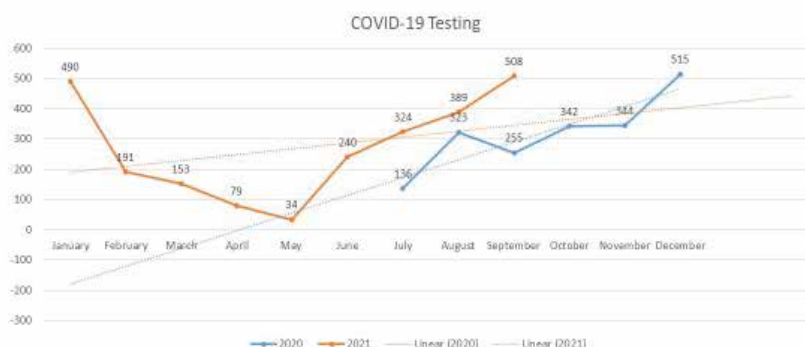
Randy Qualls- Residential Maintenance Technician

Drew Lankford- Residential Maintenance Technician

Levi Griffin- Project Coordinator

Paul Parker- Project Coordinator

COVID Testing



get a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine based on their individual benefits and risks.

Adults aged 18–64 years who work or reside in certain settings (e.g., health care, schools, correctional facilities, homeless shelters) may be

at increased risk of being exposed to COVID-19, which could be spreading where they work or reside. Since that risk can vary across settings and based on how much COVID-19

Continued on Page 14

Need a COVID Booster?

If you:

- Received the first two doses of Pfizer vaccine. (It doesn't matter if you got them with us or not).
- Received the second dose at least 6 months ago.
 - Are 65 years or older.
- OR.....Have high risk medical conditions.
- OR.....Work in a high exposure environment.

Call Bearskin Clinic to schedule your Pfizer booster or ask more questions, 918-678-3228.

What about Moderna or Johnson & Johnson?

The FDA and CDC are meeting within the next couple of weeks to discuss boosters for Moderna or J&J. We should have guidance on this after they meet.

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Continued from Page 13

is spreading in a community, people aged 18–64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may get a booster shot after considering their individual risks and benefits. This recommendation may change in the future as more data become available.

Examples of workers who may get Pfizer-BioNTech booster [1] shots:

- First responders (e.g., health-care workers, firefighters, police, congregate care staff)
- Education staff (e.g., teachers, support staff, daycare workers)
- Food and agriculture workers
- Manufacturing workers
- Corrections workers
- U.S. Postal Service workers
- Public transit workers
- Grocery store workers

www.ih.gov/forpatients/healthtopics/covid-19/

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

Optometry Benefits have increased!

- Single Vision \$225
- Multi-Focal \$275

Call 918-678-2282 for more details!

Flu Shots

Flu Shots now available @ Bearskin Clinic. Walk-ins welcome

8 am – Noon & 1 – 3:30 pm
Monday through Friday

Tribal Heritage

*Submitted by Kim Garcia,
Cultural Preservation Officer*

Kweh qmatēru?

This year has proven to be yet another difficult year. In the Cultural Division, we had to cancel all of our major events: Gathering of Little Turtles, Lacrosse Camp, Gathering, and Pow-Wow.

The Annual Wyandotte Artisan Showcase was planned to be in person, but with all the cancellations, we transitioned to an online showcase. The showcase is linked at www.wyandotte-nation.org and the Wyandotte Nation Facebook page. We had some wonderful entries and we want to congratulate all of the winners! We especially want to congratulate Roy Smith with his Wyandotte Quilt – he received Best in Show!

We also had to cancel our in-person classes due to not being able to social distance. While this has been challenging, blessings have come out of the situation. We've pushed passed our comfort levels and started providing online classes via Facebook Live and Zoom. Through these opportunities, we've been able to connect with Wyandotte citizens throughout the country. We're still working out a few logistical issues but we're trying to work through them.

One of those issues is reaching out to people. We realize not everyone uses Facebook or may not see all the events. We will send out an email at least monthly to remind people of upcoming events.

If you'd like to receive those emails, please email me, Kim Garcia, at kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org.

Classes and events we are offering include: traditional pucker toe moccasin making, various beading, shawl making, a monthly history discussion, traditional foods discussion, a quarterly book club, a monthly basic Wa'dat language class, traditional storytelling, contests, and much more! Please keep in touch to learn about all the upcoming events.

We look forward to working with you and we are eager to host in-person events in the near future!

Eskwayē? (I will see you all again!)

Department Contacts:

Kim Garcia

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



WILLIAM SWAIM | WYANDOTTE NATION

Roy Smith showcases his Wyandotte Quilt before the Wyandotte Artisan Showcase. Smith's quilt was named "Best in Show."

Wyandotte Nation Tribal Artisan Showcase

Category	Title	Place	Artist
Basketry	Pine Needle on Gourd	First Place	Linda Blake
Beadwork	Pendant on Beaded Rope	First Place	Linda Blake
Beadwork	Raised Beaded Purse with Cross Body Strap	Second Place	Marilyn Young
Beadwork	Wyandotte Nation Medallion	Third Place	Viki Meader
Diverse Art Forms	Turtle Head War Club	First Place	David Keffer
Diverse Art Forms	Dolls - Wyandotte Regalia	Second Place	Viki Meader
Diverse Art Forms	Muse	Third Place	Peggy Sue Hanner
Jewelry	Acid Etch Wyandotte Logo	First Place	David Keffer
Jewelry	Pendant with Shell Fringe	Second Place	Linda Blake
Painting, Drawing	Diptych 1;2	First Place	Alexis Gros-Louis
Painting, Drawing	Grayling	Second Place	Peggy Sue Hanner
Painting, Drawing	John Stewart	Third Place	Ashley Simmons
Photography	Yellowstone	First Place	Joshua Garcia
Photography	Dew Drops	Second Place	Peggy Sue Hanner
Photography	Sunrise on the Hudson	Third Place	Linda Blake
Sculpture	Native Walking Stick	First Place	Brenda Lamb
Textiles	Wyandotte Quilt	First Place	Roy Smith
Textiles	Ribbon Skirt	Second Place	Marilyn Young
Textiles	Shoulder Pouch	Third Place	Brenda Lamb
Youth - Drawing	Howling Wolf	First Place	Gracie Blake

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

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center & Museum Calendar of Events



All Zoom Classes must register and the zoom link will be emailed prior to class.



All Facebook Live events will be at the Cultural Center Facebook page and will be recorded to be able to view later.

Date	Time	Description	Location	Link or Registration
November				
1		First Day of American Indian Heritage Month		
4	1:30 – 3pm	Edge Beading on Moccasins - FB Live	Facebook Live with Kim Garcia	https://www.facebook.com/WyandotteCulturalCenter
6	1:30 - 2:30 pm	Shawl Making Class - Zoom	Zoom with Quapaw Artist Carolyn Noll	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Shawl
7		Daylight Saving Time ends		
9	1:30 – 3pm	Traditional Foods - FB Live	Facebook Live with Chris Houk	https://www.facebook.com/WyandotteCulturalCenter
	7:30 – 8:30pm	Wyandotte Book Club: Braiding Sweet Grass by Robin Wall Kimmerer - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WyandotteBookClub
10	1:30 – 2:30pm	Wyandotte Book Club: Braiding Sweet Grass by Robin Wall Kimmerer - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WyandotteBookClub
11		Veterans Day - Offices Closed		
17	1 – 1:30pm	Wadwat Wednesday: Basic Language - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WadwatWed
	8 – 8:30pm	Wadwat Wednesday: Basic Language - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	
20	2 – 3:30pm	Beaded Ornament - Zoom	Zoom Meeting with Kim Garcia	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BeadedOrnament
22		Ribbon Skirt/Shirt Contest Deadline		
		Post a photo on Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center Facebook Page in your ribbon skirt or ribbon shirt.		
25		Thanksgiving Day - Offices Closed		
26		Thanksgiving Holiday - Offices Closed		
30	8:00 PM	Wyandotte History: Reading the Wampum - Zoom	Zoom with Lloyd Divine	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WyandotteHistory
December				
4	2 – 4pm	Moccasin Ornament - Zoom	Zoom with Chris Houk	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MoccasinOrnament
7	1:30 – 2:30pm	Intro to Traditional Stories - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IntroToStory
9	7:30 – 8:30pm	Intro to Traditional Stories - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IntroToStory
15	1 – 1:30pm	Wadwat Wednesday: Basic Language - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WadwatWed
	8 – 8:30pm	Wadwat Wednesday: Basic Language - Zoom	Zoom with Beci Wright	
20		Ornament Contest Submission Deadline		
		Post a photo on Wyandotte Nation Cultural Center Facebook Page of your hand crafted ornament.		
January				
8	2:00 PM	Traditional Story Telling	Zoom	
25	8:00 PM	Wyandotte History: Reading the Wampum - Zoom	Zoom with Lloyd Divine	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WyandotteHistory

Wyandotte Book Club!

Starting in November 2021, the Cultural Center is hosting an online book club every quarter. For our first meeting we read *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Our next meeting will be in February (offered once during the day, once in the evening). Look at the Cultural Center Facebook page to find out what we are reading next! Support your local independent bookstore when you can.

If you'd like to suggest future titles, remember that they 1) must be written by a native author, 2) must be available in paperback, and 3) must be available as an audiobook. If you are interested in leading a future session, let Beci know at bwright@wyandotte-nation.org.



Directory of Wyandotte Names

Being gifted a traditional name in our Wadwat language means that no other Wyandotte has the same name. If you have been gifted a name in the past, please be sure to add it to our Directory at www.surveymonkey.com/r/WNames so we can insure it is not used by anyone else during your lifetime. (Over the years, records have been kept in several places and we don't want to accidentally overlook anyone!) Tižamēh!

If you cannot access the online Directory, please send: your English name, address, birthday, Wyandotte name, when & where you received it, and any story associated with it you'd like to share to the Cultural Center. We'd appreciate it!

Interested in receiving a Wyandotte name? Look for the updated procedure before the end of the year. Or send an email with your interest to bwright@wyandotte-nation.org and we will let you know when the procedure and paperwork is ready.

LANGUAGE NOTES

Kweh ɔmatəru? ! (Hello, friends!)

It is now **yanēda?yé"deh** (Autumn) and many things are happening: the weather is changing, the days are getting shorter, and the holidays approach. I challenge you to use a few useful Wadwat phrases over the next few weeks!

Yanēda?yé"deh will soon lead to **yuhšréndeh** (winter), the time for storytelling. I'll be giving an online class in early December on where to find our traditional stories for those who are interested in exploring them and preparing for our Storytelling session on Jan. 8. If you are interested, we can also prepare a traditional narrative in Wadwat!

The days are cooling off but I'm still surprised when I wake up and can say **uturé?** (it is cold). Being able to say **ižukwas** (it is windy), however, doesn't surprise me!

uturé? ndekətəteh it's a cold day

When you gather with family and **ɔmatəru?** and share a meal together, try using the following phrases:

kwatə?mesənyə? (we give many thanks)

etsikwa"gyá:ha? (we are going to eat)

Looking ahead, if you want to add some Wadwat to your holiday greetings and messages, try:

A:skwátəta:re? "de mətawáhstih a?yaó?

(Happy Holidays – literally “May you be happy the good day comes”)

Žesus ahatəgya? (Christmas)

A:skwátəta:re? "de ya?"de"gyáse? a?yaó?

(Happy New Year)

Remember: AUDIO files are available at wandat.org (click on “Turtle Talk”) and join me every third Wednesday of the month at Wadwat Wednesdays (on ZOOM) to practice together.

Tižamēh! Etsikwaye? (I will see y'all again)!

(To sign up for Wadwat Wednesdays online in the afternoon or evening, go to: www.surveymonkey.com/r/WadwatWed to receive the zoom link and reminders. If you are having difficulty getting to the audio files, contact me and we'll try to work out an alternative. Be sure to send any comments or suggestions, especially those on your language & culture wishlist, to: bwright@wyandotte-nation.org.)

Pronunciation Reminders: **ʔ** is a glottal stop, like in the middle of “uh-oh!”; the little hook under a vowel means it is nasal – try to pronounce it using your nose rather than the back of your throat. The colon : is a lengthener – say the vowel that comes before it twice as long as you would normally. And the little accent tells you where to put the stress.

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

TRIBAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Important Numbers

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

Kim Garcia (918) 678-6317
kgarcia@wyandotte-nation.org
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

Police Department

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

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

ELDERS VETERANS LUNCH & HONOR

Nov.
10

11am-1pm @ Title
VI Building



ELDERS THANKSGIVING DINNER

Nov.
18

11:30am-1pm @
Title VI Building



CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec.
11

10am-Noon @ New
Administration
Building (Drive-
thru, lower level)



ELDERS CHRISTMAS DINNER

Dec.
16

11:30am-1pm @
Title VI Building



2022

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

SPRING
TBD



GATHERING OF LITTLE TURTLES

JUNE
24-26



FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

JULY
TBD

Gates open 6pm @
Wyandotte Nation
Pow-Wow Grounds



GATHERING

SEPT.
7-9



31ST ANNUAL POW-WOW

SEPT.
9-11



ANNUAL MEETING

SEPT.
10

10am @ Bearskin
Fitness Center Gym



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