



DELAWARE INDIAN NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

Delaware Tribe of Indians
5100 Tuxedo Blvd.
Bartlesville, OK 74006

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Lënapeí Pampil

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Mni Wiconi – Water is Life

**Kwënawsu awèn mēnete
mpi - A person will live a
long life if he drinks water**

CeCe Biggoose

The photo on the right is a medicine wheel (HUMAN) at Turtle Island on the river. It was planned by the Standing Rock youth as a walk of prayer; a non-violent Direct Action against DAPL after the violent confrontation on the bridge. They filmed the human medicine wheel from above with a drone. I, along with 1,000 people, took part in this event and it was so awesome! The youth organized a walk from the Oceti Sakowin camp to this location across the river from where DAPL are still working to drill under the river. That company is going to proceed regardless if they have orders to stop.

I also participated in a walk to where the pipeline crossed the highway to pray and listen to testimonies of the dog biting events that happened prior to our arrival. This was the highway that is now blocked and where the violence against peaceful unarmed water protectors happened on the bridge later.

I first went in September to join in solidarity with the Stand-



ing Rock Sioux tribe against the Dakota Access Pipeline. I had been hospitalized and at home with a very bad infection for 40 days, unable to walk. During that time I kept up with what was happening. I have family in South Dakota. On my father Jack Runnel Sr's side of the family, I am Oglala Lakota. My father assisted the tribal attorney of the Oglala Lakota tribe, Mario Gonzales, many years ago to get a water pipeline from the Missouri River to the Pine Ridge reservation to supply much-needed water to the people on the reservations across South Dakota. I felt a calling so strongly I had to go, even though I could barely walk on my leg yet. I packed my car with camping gear and supplies, along with my son Dario Lakota and a Pawnee friend, Marlin Thompson. We

made the long trip up there, met up with family already camped there and I set up my camp for a weeklong stay.

During that time, we attended ceremonies each day at sunrise and sunset. During the day we met with other tribes, people from all over the world and listened to stories late into the night at the sacred fire. It was a very spiritual place. There was no fear. There were no violent confrontations by the DAPL militia force, during my stay. The only signs of the police were the huge line of flood lights directed toward the camp from across the river where the DAPL workers continue to defy orders to stop. Also you could see the police along the ridges watching the camp. At night and all day there was a constant noise above from the small plane and helicop-

ter flying overhead. They spied on the camp constantly. Cars, vans, trucks, and buses entered into the camp each day with van loads of people and tribes coming from every state and other countries. Each time a delegation arrived, they had a processional down the flag road into camp. They entered on horses, by runners, in regalia and singing their tribal prayer songs. It brought many a tear to my eyes to be a witness to something so spiritual and history in the making.

When I heard about another violent confrontation I made my second trip during November and stayed a week. During the second visit, we participated in a prayerful walk to the site of a Human Medicine Wheel.

I have always been active when it comes to our rights as human beings. We must step up and let our voices be heard to protect our Mother Earth for our future generations. It is our duty as Native people to look after our natural resources and to put ourselves on the front lines if necessary. We cannot sit back and let these big money corporations hurt Mother Earth. It is a global fight. We must educate our children and grandchildren. We have to look at how we live our daily lives and what we can do to change our ways of thinking and doing things. If we continue to think it is not our problem, it will soon become our problem as it is now right here in our own backyards! It is our duty to protect Mother Earth! ■



More pictures from Standing Rock on page 11

Chief Chet Brooks Speaks

Happy New Year, Delaware Tribal Members and Friends:

Sincere congratulations are extended to our newly-elected Council members Larry Joe Brooks, Charles Edward Randall, Nathan Harrison Young IV, and first runner-up Lu Ann Hainline. We now have a Tribal Council that I sincerely believe will act in a cooperative and Constitutional manner for the greatest benefit to the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

I also extend my very limited condolences to the five least vote losers of the Tribal Council Election for the following reasons: On March 8, 2016 you all saw fit to file illicit, unconstitutional recall petitions against two of our Council members. On March 23 several of you were informed by me that I would not join your witch hunt because it did not comply with our Constitution Article 10. As a result of that

you filed a similar Recall Petition against me on April 22. The three petitions were finally presented at our July Tribal Council Meeting, improperly verified by Tribal Council Secretary and rife with at least 17 false signatures and at least 23 more unqualified voter signatures. The Honorable Delaware Tribal Court finally resolved this witch hunt in mid-October and I hope the Court Order is printed in this edition of *Delaware Indian News*.

And now to the condolences which are really due in total to all our people for the lost opportunities, lost money and lost eight months of 2016 caused by your unconstitutional witch hunt petitions. On November 5, 2016, 600 Delaware voters caused two incumbent Council candidates and three witch hunting petitioners to not get elected. Three good new Council members were elected. Do you suppose Delaware vot-

ers were trying to say: "IF YOU CAN NOT GET ELECTED AND BE A GOOD LEADER, OR GET ELECTED AND REFUSE TO FOLLOW THE CONSTITUTION YOU HAVE TAKEN AN OATH TO UPHOLD, THEN AT LEAST HAVE THE COMMON COURTESY TO GET OUT OF THE WAY SO OUR TRIBE CAN PROGRESS INTO A BETTER FUTURE?"

Sincere congratulations are also extended to new Trust Board chairman Mary Jolene Peterson, new Trust Board members John Milford Thomas and Marilyn S. Cole, and incumbent Trust Board member Roger D. Stewart. Sincere congratulations also are extended to newly-elected Tribal Judges Bethany Sue Jackson and Nathan Harrison Young III. I have confidence that all these newly-elected Tribal officials will perform their duties in accordance with the Delaware Constitution and By-Laws. I am happy to report that the Trust

Budget question to raise Education Budget 5% passed by 89% yes votes.

Tribal politics put aside, what were Tribal accomplishments in the four months of 2016, unhindered by witch hunts and Constitutional questions? I am happy to report that our unaudited September 30, 2016 financials shows our net worth to be approx. \$1.9 million more than same date 2011, and it would have been approx. \$400 thousand more had we not suffered a \$400 thousand loss caused by DFMS in the prior administration. From October 22-28 new Council members Joe Brooks and Nathan Young IV, Trust Board members Roger Stewart and Homer Scott, Child Enforcement Director Curtis Zunigha, Tribal member Susan Cade, Delaware Historic Preservation Office director Brice Obermeyer, and I traveled 1,900 round trip miles to Schoenbrunn Village, OH to reinter the remains of 81 Delaware ancestors

in a respectful way. This reburial follows that of two Ancestors at Ellis Island, NJ, May 1, 2003 and 102 Ancestors at Delaware Water Gap in 2009. On all three reburials our Tribe was helped by our Stockbridge-Muncie and Delaware Nation relatives. My sincere Thank You is extended to all our Tribal members who helped and attended any or all of these reburials.

All Delaware Tribal Departments have continued work during the eight months confusion of 2016. With the continued work efforts of all of our Tribal employees and especially the continued efforts of our elected Tribal Officials our Tribe can achieve much in our future. MAY THE CREATOR BLESS ALL LENAPE TRIBAL MEMBERS AND GOD BLESS THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS.

Chet Brooks
Chief of the Delaware Tribe
cbrooks@delawaretribe.org ■

From the Desk of Council Secretary Charles Randall

The election is over and we have several new faces in our Tribal government. Being new on the Council, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that voted, not just the ones who voted for me, but everyone who took the time and cared enough to vote and make a difference.

I ran for Council for one reason and that was because I felt I could help the Council be more productive for the Delaware Tribe and the Lenape people. As I am sure you are aware, there are certain disgruntled individuals who are unhappy and have tried using social media such as Facebook to spread lies and rumors to try to help their cause. They have even published an "Unof-

ficial Newspaper" that looks like the real *Delaware Indian News* attacking people. They are only hurting the Tribe. By your vote, you have shown that you see through these fraudulent attacks and want to see our Tribe succeed and prosper. I would ask that you ignore these negative comments and promote positive support for the Tribe.

If you have questions, please ask and give us the opportunity to answer and go on record with the truth. In some cases we may not be able to answer a question for legal reasons (for example, if it concerns on-going negotiations that we cannot comment on). We were elected to conduct the tribal business and we take that responsibility seriously.

We need and solicit suggestions and ideas from our fellow tribal members. I would like to see a Round Table-type session established where we could entertain discussion from those present and on-line with live streaming. Action items could be documented with follow up and status reporting.

As a new Council person, I look forward to serving you and feel that the future of the Delaware Tribe is filled with opportunity. I would like to encourage everyone to become actively involved with the Tribe, if only by keeping up on current events and telling us your opinion.

Wanishi!
Charles Randall
Tribal Council Secretary
crandall@delawaretribe.org ■

Delaware Indian News

The *Delaware Indian News* is the official publication of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. It is published quarterly by the Delaware Tribe of Indians and is mailed free to members. Subscriptions to non-tribal members are available at \$20 per year. To order a subscription, contact 918-337-6590 or din@delawaretribe.org.

We invite contributions, but reserve the right to limit printing based upon available space. The deadline for articles, letters, ads and calendar of events is February 23, 2017 for the April 2017 issue. Submissions may be mailed, faxed or hand delivered to the tribal office or emailed to din@delawaretribe.org. Paid advertisements are available; for rates, please contact the editor.

Editorials, guest columns, and reader's letters reflect the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *DIN*, its staff, or the tribal government. Editorials that are intended to be published in the *DIN* must concern tribal issues and should not be statements of general political beliefs. They must be signed by the author and include the author's address. The *DIN* does not guarantee publication upon submission of comments.

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The mission of the *DIN* is to serve, empower and inform the Lenape people, while adhering to the policy of unbiased reporting in an ethical and professional manner.

Editorial Board:

Leslie Jerden (chair), Gregory Brown, Leslie Fall-Leaf

Editor: Leslie Jerden (ljerden@delawaretribe.org)

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From the Desk of Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith

What a great time for our Delaware Tribe.

We've gained new Council members and I can certainly say that they are more than ready to roll up their sleeves and work for YOU. Welcome aboard Joe Brooks, Charles Randall, and Nathan "Buck" Young IV. I am honored to be able to serve with each of you. I think the vote overwhelmingly showed that our members are ready for this Council to stop the infighting and bickering and get busy doing good for our tribe. We will be off and running in this New Year and what a hopeful time it is. I am so optimistic now for the possibilities for our tribe. It's been a long time coming but I feel now we will make great progress for our tribe and for you as a tribal member.

My congratulations to the new Trust Board Chair, Mary Jo Peterson; Trust Board members, John Thomas, Marilyn Cole, and incumbent Roger Stewart; and Judges, Nathan Young III and Bethany Jackson Green on their successful bids for office. I look forward to all of them working in their elected capacities in helping our tribe move forward.

I am thankful that we have a Delaware Tribal Court that understands law and doesn't judge based on who they like or what family they are. The decision concerning the petitions filed against Chief Brooks, then Councilor Nathan Young III, and myself, was spot on as far as the way many of us read our constitution. The misinterpretation has been laid to rest now.

I feel privileged to have been asked to serve on the Native Regional Conservation Advisory

Council and attended a three day meeting at the Hard Rock in Catoosa. There were participants from North Dakota, Nebraska, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, as well as the Office of the Regional Conservationists-USDA in Washington, DC. Eric Banks, the State Conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS in Kansas was in attendance and I had the opportunity to visit with him about our Lawrence, Kansas property. Hopefully he will be able to help us with our project there. While at the meeting, we took a field trip to the Cherokee Nation's bison ranch. They have a very impressive herd and facility. After we left that ranch, we were treated to a traditional Cherokee meal at their Heritage Center. We also stopped by their seed farm and were given a tour of the plants and their uses and history. I believe the next annual meeting for this group is being planned in North Dakota in August 2017.

Tahkox e2 is certainly heading in the right direction. Jimmie Johnson is doing a great job with this company and we have high hopes for the future. I know he's out in the field making sales calls almost daily. I'm praying this will be a turnaround in economic development for our tribe. We have high hopes and I know Jimmie is working hard to make gains for the Delaware.

We have been a bit stalled on the hydroponics project due to libelous statements being spread on social media and illegal petitions being circulated. I believe with the new Council we will be able to successfully end the lies and harassment from those sites. The comments posted on that

site are mainly lies and have hurt the tribe financially due to people wondering "what the hell" this site is. Unfortunately, a few investors have seen it before they see the REAL Facebook page of the tribe. It's a shame people would do something that would cause projects to slow down, and in some cases shut down. Any one truly wishing the best for our tribe would never behave this way.

The Elder's Committee is going strong and we have a good time each month when we load up and take at least one afternoon out and about. I encourage all local Delaware to come out and have lunch at the Tribal Center at our Elder Nutrition lunch and join us on one of our afternoon outings. We generally go to a casino, sometimes a local attraction, a historical site, and without fail, end with a stop at Braum's. It's a great time of fellowship and making new friends.

I hope each of you will continue to pray with me for our tribe. I ask God to help guide me and the Council in doing what is best for the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Your council has nothing but good hopes, plans, and intentions for you as a member and our tribe as a whole. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Check out my blog at:
mydelawareviews.com

Wanishi,
Bonnie Jo Griffith
Assistant Chief
bgriffith@delawaretribe.org■

From the Desk of Nathan Young IV

Congratulations to all of the newly elected Tribal Council members and thank you to all of our outgoing members. Wanishi to you all for your service to our Tribe. It is truly an honor to serve on our Tribal Council, and I look forward to working in the best interest of all Delaware Tribal members.

Our government is ancient and pre-dates the founding of the United States government. Always keeping this in mind I will do my best to live up to the great and lasting legacy of the Lenape/Delaware people. To me this means working with others on the council and in our government to make sure that our employees and our businesses have the tools and resources they need to succeed.

Our tribal employees and our tribally run businesses are here to serve our community, and I believe in the talented and capable staff working for our people. I look forward to working with everyone to do what is best for

the Delaware Tribe. Great opportunities also lie ahead for our tribal business Tahkox, which is still a very young company, but one that I am certain has the potential for great success which will serve to benefit our entire membership.

Equally important is our need to preserve and support our culture. We inherit a cultural tradition that is as rich and beautiful as any in the world. Our culture and community is what makes us Lenape people. This is truly our most valuable asset as it has sustained us through great adversity and I will do everything I can as a member of our Tribal Council to help support and preserve our culture.

With all of this in mind I look forward to serving you.

Wanishi,
Nathan H. Young IV
Tribal Council Member
nyoungiv@delawaretribe.org■

DIN Subscription Form

Don't miss any of the latest news about the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Order the *Delaware Indian News*, the Tribe's official publication. Enrolled tribal members with current addresses on file receive the *Delaware Indian News* free. For non-tribal members or others, the annual subscription is only \$20 per year (four issues).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Send completed form, with a check of money order made out to "Delaware Tribe of Indians," to: **Delaware Indian News, 5100 Tuxedo Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006**

Elder Nutrition

Mary Randall

The past year has been a very exciting and busy year for the Title VI Elder Nutrition Program. We continue to provide lunch to our Native American Elders and their spouses Monday through Friday. There is no charge for Native American Elders and spouses (55 years and older), and we appreciate guests and tribal staff that pay a small fee of \$5.00. This fee not only buys you a great meal, but helps stock what many people claim to be the best salad bar in town.

Lunches are served in Forsythe Hall at the Delaware Community Center located at 5100 Tuxedo Blvd. We provide a friendly environment to meet and enjoy the fellowship of others and participate in planned activities.

Our calendar provides the month's menu at a glance and on the back is a calendar of Delaware events and activities. These calendars are available in the dining hall; the menu and elder's calendar is also available online at the Tribe's web site at www.delawaretribe.org.

Some of our activities at the Center, which everyone is invited to participate in, are:

- Chair exercises held Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:30 AM until 11:30 AM. These exercises are structured so individuals may participate in what feels good to them.
- Bingo every Thursday immediately after lunch with prizes for the winners.
- Birthday lunch scheduled for the third Wednesday of

each month where we recognize the Elders' birthdays and anniversaries.

- Various activities scheduled throughout the month such as basket weaving, crocheting class, movies or other activities our Elders enjoy.
 - Once a month, a blood pressure check for our Elders provided by a nurse from the Will Rogers Health Center.
- Some of the activities during the past year have been:

- April 21, 2016: we held a very successful Health Fair with 13 vendors and the various Delaware departments explaining the services that are available for our Elders. Prizes and handouts were a big hit with everyone.
- July 12, 2016: the Elders attended a Senior Fraud Conference to educate them on the dangers from fraud.
- September 21, 2016: a Mini Health Fair to provide information about Medicare Part D pre-enrollment. Local pharmacies and the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. were present to offer their assistance and identify services that are available.
- October 20, 2016: we had a seminar on Refusing to be a Victim to assist the Elders in personal safety.
- October 28, 2016: the Delaware Day Care children came in full costume during lunch to Trick or Treat. The Elders enjoyed seeing the little ones and passing out treats as the kids paraded around the tables.

- November 10, 2016: a special presentation in recognition and honor of the Veterans during lunch with the Ad Lib Singers singing patriotic songs.

- November 17, 2016: we had specialists come in and present a class on Alzheimer's Awareness.

Over the past year, we have served an average of 1184 meals per month. Our daily average for the year was 56.38 meals per day. By October 2016, our daily average has gone up to 76.24 meals per day.

Currently, we are working on nutrition funding grants for FY 2017-2020. Meals provided through the grant must only go to Native American Elders age 55 or older "as defined by our Tribal Council" who are members of a Federally recognized tribe, their spouse of any age, younger people with disabilities who live at home with the elder and come to the meal site with the elder, and volunteers for the Nutrition Program. For all others, the cost of meals are \$5.00.

Our staff consists of Mary Randall, Elder Services Director; Archie Elvington, Cook/Kitchen Manager; Mary (Lucy) Young, Kitchen Assistant; and Thomas Selby, Dishwasher. Our goal continues to be the growth of the program and expansion of our Elder Nutrition Services.

Mary Randall
Director of Elder Services
918-337-6589
mrandall@delawaretribe.org

Memorial Bricks Update

Presently we have received orders for two additional memorial bricks. The Elder Committee will be ordering several bricks the first of December and if all goes as planned, we should have all of the bricks ready to be put in the Memorial Garden by the time you are reading this update.

The bricks are 12 x 12 inches in size and pewter in color. Each brick can have up to eight lines with up to 20 characters, punctuation and spaces for each line. The cost is \$60 per brick.

To order a Memorial Brick, send us a description of what you want on your brick and a

check for \$60 payable to Delaware Tribe of Indians with Memorial Brick in the memo line. Mail check to:

Delaware Tribe of Indians
Attn: Memorial Brick
5100 Tuxedo Blvd.
Bartlesville, OK 74006

If you have any questions or need more information, you can contact Mary Randall, brick liaison at 918-337-6589 or email mrandall@delawaretribe.org.

PS: A template for ordering a brick is also available on the Delaware web site www.delawaretribe.org.

Delaware Elders Committee

Memorial Brick

Each brick **\$60.00**

12" X 12"

Up to 8 lines

20 characters including spaces & Punctuation per line

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	

Make Check Payable to: **Delaware Tribe of Indians** with "Memorial Brick" on the memo line.

Check #: _____ Amt: \$ _____

Mail Form and Check to: Delaware Tribe of Indians
Attn: Memorial Brick
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tribal Operations Manager Report

Allan Barnes, Tribal Operations Manager

Happy New Year, Delaware Tribe of Indians and all of our loyal supporters, family and friends! As we move forward into 2017 let me take just a moment to reflect upon our accomplishments this past year and what we hope to accomplish this year.

Communications within our departments have been held consistently to promote and sustain their programs. That is the key. Certainly, our efforts in applying for and obtaining new funding through grants not only require the consideration of how they will benefit our Tribe but also, will we as a Tribe be able to sustain the program once it is awarded.

Our Grant Steering Committee has been very judicious and successful in this process. Our Tribal Council works very hard to cre-

ate new revenue generating opportunities. A great deal has been accomplished over the past two years and as you should know, our newly elected Tribal Council Persons have demonstrated their eagerness to move forward and work together for our common good. That is as political as I will get.

My wish for this new year is to help as many of our Tribal members as we possibly can. Our Community Services and Education Assistance programs meet on a monthly basis and do their best to assist as many Tribal members, that qualify as far as the application process allows.

Of course, our Elder Nutrition program has grown tremendously this past year and provided a welcomed atmosphere for those that participate. The meal that

is served goes a long way in satisfying a great service to our Elder Tribal members and our other Native American friends. Their low-impact exercise program continues on and is thriving, even though we did lose our Eldest participant, member Lew Ketchum. If I take a moment and try to mention all of those we lost this past year, it would be unfair to those I did not name. So, we all can name someone in our Tribe that has experienced a loss of a family member or close friend because that's who we are a Tribe.

During our November General Council, Tribal member Jack Tatum made this very important observation that it is the importance of our Culture and Heritage that separates us from being just a club.

Our Housing Department works hard and provides one of the basic necessities to our existence. Without them and the fore-

sight of our Fathers, these homes would not be available to our Delaware Tribal members.

Our Child Support Services department is growing and available to those in need and our Department Director Curtis Zunigha is continually working to grow our Indian Child Welfare and other related services.

I am expecting our environmental department to expand into more services that are available to our Tribal Members. Currently, the most visible are the two recyclable trailers which are assets to our Tribe.

Many of you have asked for live streaming of our Council meetings and I am grateful to our IT Director, Carson Virden, for making this happen.

Our Wellness Center rarely goes very long without a regular exerciser using the equipment that is available to them. In fact, sometimes it seems that we could even use more space for

those folks who want to keep fit. Maybe that can occur sometime in our future, if expanding that operation is sustainable.

We can do it... Just look at our recently expanded and remodeled enrollment department. It is a tribute and an accomplishment for our Tribe. Hopefully, our next remodeling program, which is our Cultural Center and their complimentary programs and office space in our main Community Center Building will get underway in the very near future.

We have accomplished a great deal and have even more to look forward to. Your comments and suggestions do get heard. We are dedicated to providing more services to our Delaware Tribe.

Respectfully,

Allan R. Barnes
Tribal Operations Manager
918-337-6590
918-338-9637

abarnes@delawaretribe.org ■

Greetings from the Environmental Program

Michael Taylor

It has been an exciting three months for me; learning my role in the program and how I can better serve the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

I attended an Indoor Air Quality Training (IAQ) in Fargo, ND on November 15-17. This course covered health concerns related to indoor air quality, identified factors responsible for common IAQ problems, with emphasis on building science, ventilation, pressure imbalances, and moisture. Furthermore, the course helped identify common indoor air pollutants including those that cause cancer and the ability to apply methods to investigate IAQ problems. This was an entry-level course and the base for other IAQ course to attend at a later date. Hopefully with more training in this area we will be able to develop a plan for outreach about IAQ in our tribal community.

I would also like to remind everyone of the recycling trailers located just behind

the Delaware Tribe Community Center, where we accept plastic bottles, aluminum cans, paper and cardboard for recycling.

The Delaware Tribe Environmental Program will also be participating in Operation Clean House on April 22, 2017. Operation Clean House is an annual Countywide recycling event for hazardous household waste disposal and recycling. The Delaware Tribe of Indians helps sponsor this event alongside Phillips 66, Washington County, City of Bartlesville, Osage Nation and many others. Together, we're providing a safer, healthier environment in the place we all call home.

Wanishi,

Michael A. Taylor
Environmental Programs
Director
918-337-6584 (phone)
918-337-6535 (fax)
mtaylor@delawaretribe.org ■

News from the Enrollment Department

Enrollment Department Staff

The Enrollment Department has been undergoing major renovations which are now almost finished. Thanks to grant money provided by the BIA in order to fund programs designated under Aid to Tribal Government we have built a secure file room which now houses all

of the enrollment files in fire retardant cabinets, and the outer office has been remodeled with new furniture, paint, and carpet. Many of our members visit this office, and we hope we have made the space more functional and appealing. Please stop by and see us! ■



Cultural Resources

Anita Mathis

He Tribal Members, Friends, and Family

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving, and a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year "2017." Wow, where does time go?

We have on display at the Cherokee Clinic in Ochelata "Cooweesowee" "some of our artifacts and gift shop items. These artifacts and other items will be changed out every few months. We also have a few artifacts that are now on display in the Cultural Resources office, along with the display on loan to the Bartlesville Area History Museum.

We had a tribal member and her husband give us a showcase that is now in the Community Building in Forsyth Hall with artifacts and the elders baskets they have made during elder activities, on display.

Please check our web site and watch the gift shop site, we are adding new items to the inven-

tory, hopefully something for everyone... If you have any requests or ideas for something you would like to have in the gift shop you may contact Anita Mathis at 918-337-6595 or amathis@delawaretribe.org.

Stop by and check out all that is new and offered in the Cultural Resources, Library, Archives, & Gift shop. There are books in the Library for your reading and research, with new books being added. There are also two computers to do research and see what has been added to our data base.

As always please bring in your pictures and documents or anything that pertains to the Delaware Tribe of Indians to be copied and added to our archives and or the museum, to preserve and share with our future generations.

Wanishi

Anita Mathis
Cultural Resources Director
918-337-6595
amathis@delawaretribe.org

Veterans Report

Kenny Brown, Chairman

The Veterans Committee honored David Finney and Gilbert Watters during Delaware Days. David served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and Gilbert served in the U.S. Air Force in Korea. On behalf of the Delaware Tribe, again I say, "Thank you for your service"!

The Lenape Colorguard has been called to duty at several events, I have had many people compliment on our unit.

August 13: We were Colorguard for IICOT Powwow and carried our M1 Rifles for the first time.

September 16 and 17: We were on duty for Indian Summer Powwow.

October 15: We brought The Colors in at the Wellness and Sobriety Powwow at Chouteau.

November 1: We opened ceremonies for the National Convention of Native American Contractors Association at the Hard Rock Casino.

November 4 and 5: We opened for Green Country Patriot Festival in Broken Arrow. The concert was live streamed to troops in Iraq, Afghanistan, and The Pentagon.

November 11: David Inda and I marched in the Claremore Veterans Parade. We teamed up with the Rogers State University Student Association. They had the flags of all the service branches, but didn't have a U.S. flag. I told them I have one and asked if they would mind if I also carried our Staff. They asked us to lead them with our Staff and Tribal Flag, flanking the U.S. flag.

November 12: The Colorguard opened for our General Council.

On behalf of all of our Veterans, I want to give a great thank you to our Delaware War Mothers for the Veterans Honor Luncheon they gave us! Made us feel good!

Hoping everyone had a Great Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mark Your Calendar

- Feb. 22, 2017: The next Veterans Committee meeting.
- Mar. 4, 2017: Colorguard is on duty for the Red Fork Powwow at Tulsa Community College West Campus.

I have a concern, I see a repeat of history in our country, like in the era of Vietnam. Many in our nation are showing disrespect and contempt for our warriors. Unpatriotic acts are being glorified, our flag, that many of our brothers and sisters in arms have given all for, is being desecrated by people who have no idea what a Blue Star or Gold Star Family is.

Order of the Day

Fly the flag, thank a veteran, display patriotism at every opportunity and support veteran organizations. ■

Tribal Seal is Now a Registered Trademark

We are proud to announce that the tribal seal now is a registered trademark:

Reg. No. 5,081,347,
Registered Nov. 15, 2016

Permission is required to use the seal in print, social media, internet and other media. In order to use the seal an application must be filled out and approved by Tribal Council.

To request permission, please contact the Tribal Office at:

5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
918-337-6590



Pictures from the Tribal Archives



Left, Charles Elkhair and his grandson; center, Lewis Ketchum and Leonard Thompson; right, do you know who this baby is?

Lenape Language Project Report

Jim Rementer

What's New

The DEL (Documenting Endangered Languages) grants from the National Science Foundation enable us to continue making improvements to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. In June we received an email telling us that we had been awarded another two-year grant. Since that time we have been busy getting things set up, having meetings, telephone conferences, answering questions, etc. In our request for funding we stated the need for making additional improvements to better document the Lenape language through the Lenape Talking Dictionary database/website. Users of the website have asked for more of the traditional Lenape stories with sound files. There are a number of recordings of stories made over the years that will be added. In some cases the recordings are not as clear as they could be and will require professional work to improve the sound quality. Linguist Ives Goddard has also given permission to add more of the stories that he recorded to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. Additional sound files of individual words are being added, as well as historical examples. These will be the main efforts under this grant.

In addition to the NSF grant, in April, 2016 the Tribal Council voted to approve to pay for rewriting the LTD database/website. Some of the reasons for needing to do that were:

1. The computer language used to build the database was an older computer language and does not function well in more modern computers.
2. The program used to play the sound files did not work

with tablets, cell phones, or other portable devices.

3. As time goes on and there are more changes in the computer world, we anticipate additional problems in our database if not updated now.

A sample of what the new opening page should look like is on the right.

In January 2015 we started having Lenape language classes on the second and fourth Mondays of every month. We have a new lesson plan each class. We have now had 30 classes.

Project History

In 1997 we received a one-year Language Planning Grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA). We extended that grant to two years and a questionnaire was sent out to all of the families enrolled with the Delaware tribe. It contained two pages of questions asking what would be of most interest to the people. Following those suggestions and consulting with linguists and computer programmers was when we first conceived of the possibility of having an online dictionary with sound files. In 2002 the Lenape Language Preservation Project received a grant from the National Science Foundation to produce a dictionary database of Lenape. Much of the funding went to digitizing and preserving our existing audiotapes made in past years with native speakers of Lenape. The Dictionary was officially online in February 2006. The Lenape Talking Dictionary was possibly the first online dictionary of a Native American language that featured sound files. All of the funding for the project came from grants writ-

ten by director Jim Rementer. No tribal funds were used for the project until this year when funds were approved to rewrite the language database/web site.

The Lenape Talking Dictionary contains thousands of Lenape or Delaware Indian words most of which contain sound files. It also has photographs, sample sentences, a section on grammar, basic lessons and stories. Under the previous grant words from lists created in the 1600s were added. There are very extensive lists from the 1700's mostly the work of the Moravian missionaries such as dictionaries, hymnals, Biblical translations and word lists. Some of these have already been added. Words from the recently published Delaware Indian Language of 1824, edited by project director Rementer and which is specific to this dialect of Southern Unami and which is like a 300-page grammar of the Lenape, are also being added to the dictionary.

The Lenape Talking Dictionary has been and will continue to be available online at no cost to anyone interested in many as-

pects of The Lenape or Delaware Indian people. There have been frequent requests for translations of Lenape place names. A number of the old place names were reviewed and recorded with Lenape speakers and some have been added to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. Funding will help guarantee the future availability and utility of these valuable resources – access to not only a dictionary of the Lenape language, but one where native speakers can be heard speaking the language. Since the death of the last fluent native speaker in 2002, the web site is the only link connecting Lenape people to their ancestral language. The Talking Dictionary is a work in progress, and we appreciate your comments about the Lenape Talking Dictionary. We will continue adding to the Grammar and Lessons sections so you can learn how to construct sentences in Lenape.

Jim Rementer
Lenape Language Project
Director
jimrem@aol.com



To Contact Us

Bartlesville Tribal Offices:
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
918-337-6590

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. M-F

Chelsea Housing Office:
6 Northview Dr.
Chelsea, OK
918-789-2525

Caney Office:
601 High Street, Caney, KS
67333
620-879-2189

Tribal Web Site:
www.delawaretribe.org

General Email:
tribe@delawaretribe.org



News from the Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Office

Brice Obermeyer

Abbott Farm National Historic Landmark Conference (January 10-11, 2017)

One of the largest Delaware cemeteries ever excavated was from a vast Delaware occupation site known today as the Abbott Farm National Historic Landmark. It is located in the lower Delaware Valley near Trenton, NJ. With the help of archaeologist Dr. Michael Stewart, we now know that over 230 individuals were excavated from there over the past 100 years. It is the individuals from this site that will be our next focus for repatriation.

With a NAGPRA grant awarded in 2012, we were able to locate approximately 130 individuals from Abbott Farm at six different museums throughout the country. From 2012-2014 we consulted with each museum and learned that each institution is at different stages in the documentation process with some believing the collection was not Delaware affiliated. In 2015 we collaborated with archaeologists to document and publish a report that presented clear evidence for a Delaware cultural affiliation. That same

year, the Delaware Nation was awarded a NAGPRA Documentation Grant to bring representatives from all these museums to Oklahoma so that we can share our findings and consult with us on affiliating the collection as Delaware. Establishing a Delaware cultural affiliation is important because it will prove the Delaware heritage of this site and allow the repatriation process to proceed more smoothly. Once repatriated, Pennsbury Manor near Philadelphia, PA will be the place for the reburial.

The conference to achieve a uniform affiliation of the Abbott Farm National Historic Landmark will be held on January 10-11, 2017 at the Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City. All tribal members are invited to attend. Representatives from the Delaware Nation and the six museums holding Abbott Farm collections will be in attendance as will the archaeologists that collaborated with us on the cultural affiliation study.

Reburial at Schoenbrunn completed (October 25, 2016)

I am relieved to share that we have laid to rest over 81 Dela-

ware ancestors in a new cemetery at Schoenbrunn Historic Village in Ohio. These individuals were originally interred in four different 18th century cemeteries in eastern Ohio and Western PA and had been excavated at different times by archaeologists in the 20th century. Work began on the repatriation of these individuals with the inception of our NAGPRA office in 1999. With the receipt of two NAGPRA grants in 2010 and 2012, we began focused efforts on the documentation and repatriation of these individuals which included the addition of Greg Brown to our staff. In 2013 we began working with the Ohio History Connection on locating an appropriate burial location and in 2015 Schoenbrunn Historic Village was selected. Schoenbrunn was established as a Moravian Delaware village in 1772 and it remains the home of a historic Delaware cemetery as well as a reconstruction of the original village.

On October 25, 2016 representatives from the three Delaware tribes returned to Schoenbrunn in order to conduct the reinterment. Our delegation included Chief Brooks, Joe Brooks, Homer Scott, Curtis Zunigha, Roger Stewart, Susan Cade, Nathan Young and myself. There were also representatives from the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the State Museum of Pennsylvania, Schoenbrunn Historic Village and the Ohio History Connection at the service. Prior to this internment, most of the remains had been in museum storage for over 50 years with some having been in storage for almost one hundred years. Schoenbrunn is now the final resting place for these remains marking it as both

a historic and a sacred site. Each grave in the cemetery is marked by a low mound and two markers (one male and one female) were placed at the east end of the cemetery. In the spring, Ohio History Connection will install a wood rail fence around the cemetery and the three tribes will place a stone marker similar to the one at the reburial site at Ellis Island.

While the practical and most significant outcome of this reburial was the appropriate return of our ancestral remains, it also signaled a turning point in our relationship with Ohio History Connection and the State Museum of Pennsylvania as both expressed a clear eagerness to proactively work with us on the

proper burial of our ancestral remains (Carnegie Museum no longer has any ancestral Delaware remains). Now that the new cemetery is a permanent feature at Schoenbrunn we will be actively engaged with Ohio History Connection on the reinterpretation of the Schoenbrunn Historic Site as well as other historic and sacred Delaware sites in the region.

Brice Obermeyer
Director, Delaware Tribe
Historic Preservation Office
bobermeyer@delawaretribe.org
org■

Lenape Humor

Collected by Jim Rementer

Two Sisters

A middle-age Indian man had been a confirmed bachelor for many years. A woman who knew him decided he needed a wife so she told him, "Don't wait too long. I know just the woman for you. Just say the word and I'll arrange for a date."

"Don't bother," the man replied, "I have two sisters at home who look after all my needs."

"That's all well and good," the woman said, "but your sisters cannot do for you what a wife can."

The man replied, "I said I had 'two sisters' at home. I didn't say they were my sisters!"

What's in the bag?

A saleswoman is driving toward home when she sees an Indian woman hitchhiking. Because the trip had been long and quiet, she stops the car and the Indian woman gets in.

After a bit of small talk, the Indian woman notices a brown bag on the front seat. "What's in the bag?," she asks.

"It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband," says the saleswoman.

The Indian woman is silent for a while and then says, "Good trade!"

First Computer Language

Years ago young Billy Gates was out riding in the hills with his grandfather. Billy saw what appeared to be smoke rising from a distant hill. As they approached the hill, they saw two Indians sending smoke signals.

Young Billy said, "Look Grandpa, those puffs look like 1's and 0's."

Grandpa replied, "Billy, write down the 1's and 0's. Too bad we don't know what they mean, huh?"■



Left to right, Roger Stewart, Susan Cade, Homer Scott, Curtis Zunigha, Chief Chet Brooks, Joe Brooks, Nathan Young IV, and Brice Obermeyer.

LENAPE STORIES

COLLECTED BY JIM REMENTER

WHY THE RACCOON HAS MARKS ON HIS FACE

This is about the little raccoons and what they said caused them to have little marks on their eyes. They said that the other creatures told him to go and borrow some firewood from the camps around. So this coon then went to the camps to get some firewood sticks that were already aflame and blackened by the fire and burned on part of the stick. And they said his little coon fell down with these in his hand and his face fell across these charred sticks. And that's why now he has little marks to show his shame trying to steal something from the campers. That is the thing to tell the younger generation to not to steal anything because that mark will be upon you.

--told by Nora Thompson Dean



KWĒLĒPISUWE . . . A HUMOROUS TALE

I heard this story a long time ago when I was a young woman. At one time there was a man named KwĒlĒpisuwe. It is said that he liked women. When he learned where some women lived he would go there immediately. At first it seemed like he just wanted to visit, but he must have wanted to flirt.

He would suddenly stand up and reach into his pocket [and] take out some finger-rings. He stood there. In his hand he held the rings. He said, "I will burn them, I will burn them!"

Then the women would all get up. They began to beg him and they hugged him and they rubbed him. They said, "Don't! Don't! Give them to us, give them to us."

The man would just have a smile on his face. He put the rings back in his pocket, he left. He went looking for some other women so that he could flirt [again].

It is said that the man would say, "I am really good looking! All the women like me! Oh, the women bother me, even when I am trying to sleep."

Finally that man was hated because he admired himself. Everyone hated him, even women, men, children, and even dogs.

This comes from a correction of long ago, "A person should not brag about himself," the elders said. Then I asked my father, "Was that really true that he was handsome?" My father said, "That wasn't so, the man was homely. He just said that."

--told by Nora Thompson Dean

Boys and Girls Club

Lindsey Harris

Greetings from the Boys and Girls Club of Chelsea. We are so happy to be giving you an update on the amazing progress we have going here at the club. Our club offers a variety of programming to the youth in Chelsea and surrounding communities. I will explain a little more about those programs below. We also offer a full service gymnasium with six basketball goals. We have sports equipment and offer athletic programs as well.

Our club focuses on youth development. We run programs that enrich their education in the areas of science, technology, reading, math, and culture. Our programs ensure that each child is given a fair and equal opportunity to learn in an environment that is bully, drug and stress free. We run programs like SMART Leaders, Project Learn, Triple Play Healthy Habits, and SMART Girls. Our two newest programs are T.R.A.I.L. (Together Raising Awareness for

Indian Life), a diabetes prevention program aimed toward our youth, and the MSPI (Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative) grant. We also have several programs that bring awareness to the importance of physical fitness and healthy eating habits. We enrich cultural programming into each program we run. We have a great staff and as CEO, I could not be prouder of the hard work this staff puts in for very little pay day-after-day. They deserve a large pat on the back if you see one of them around town!

Recently, I was selected to the National Native Advisory Committee (NAC). Through this fourteen-member committee, I was chosen to represent Oklahoma on the Tribal Relations subcommittee and the culture committee. These committees bring awareness and best practices to all Boys and Girls Clubs in Indian Country and across America. I am honored to be able to repre-

sent our great state and our great Tribe on this journey.

We at the Boys and Girls Club of Chelsea encourage our tribal and community members to come take a look at the newly-renovated club and witness for yourself all the positive movements that are being led right here in small town Chelsea. We are still the only club located in Rogers County after all these years! Thank you to the Delaware Tribe of Indians, Delaware Tribe Housing Department, Cherokee Nation, Indian Women's Pocahontas Club, and all our other supporters in and around our community for all they do for our club and our kids. We exist, to make a positive impact, because of you!

We are actively looking for elders to come be storytellers or teach/mentor a program. Please call 918-789-3232 if you would like to participate.

BE GREAT!

Lindsey Harris
CEO

lharris@delawaretribe.org

Contact Information Change Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Others Affected: _____

To have a name changed on the tribal roll, send proper documentation, such as a legal document, stating the change (examples: marriage license, adoption papers, divorce papers, etc.). Be sure to include your previous name or names since that will be the way it is listed on the roll. Including Tribal Registration number is helpful, but not required. Please include others in your household who are affected by this contact info change, including children, so that their records can be updated.

Send completed form to:

**Delaware Tribe of Indians
Enrollment Department
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006**

Tribal Member Larry Heady Honored

Forest Service Eastern area leadership met with Voigt Intertribal Task Force representatives and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) in Watersmeet, Michigan October 5 for their annual meeting to discuss issues relating to the implementation of the 1999 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The meeting was hosted by the Lac Vieux Desert Tribe. The MOU is signed by 11 GLIFWC member tribes and the Forest Service—including the Eastern Region, Northern Research Station and Law Enforcement and Investigations. Representing the three

branches at the meeting were Regional Forester Kathleen Atkinson, acting Deputy Director Paul Strong, and Special Agent-in-Charge Mary King. The MOU implements the government-to-government relationship between the tribes and the Forest Service and recognizes the treaty-reserved rights of GLIFWC member tribes to hunt, fish and gather on ceded lands. Specifically, the MOU provides a vehicle to set standards by which reserved rights are implemented on NFS lands.

The annual meeting provides a format to share information regarding numerous activities

on national forests including in the Chequamegon-Nicolet in Wisconsin and the Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee in Michigan. It is also an opportunity to identify new issues and endeavors that the Forest Service and tribes can work on and to discuss potential amendments to the MOU if needed. Over 60 people were in attendance from the above mentioned participating groups.

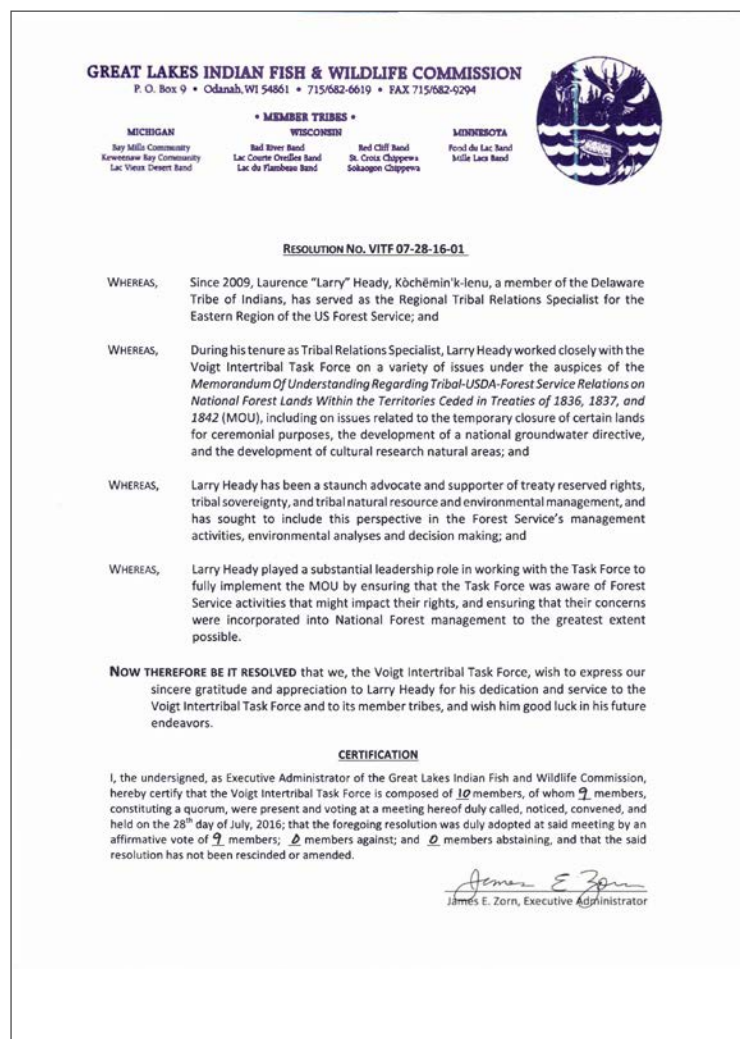
An unexpected highlight of the meeting was recognition for Larry Heady, out-going Regional Tribal Relations Specialist, which included an Honor Song and the reading of an official

GLIFWC Resolution. The Resolution (VITF 07-28-16-01) states in part,

Larry Heady has been a staunch advocate and supporter of treaty reserved rights, tribal sovereignty, and tribal natural resource and environmental management, and has sought to include this perspective in the Forest Service's management activities, environmental analysis; and... played a substantial leadership role in working with the Task Force to fully implement the MOU by ensuring that the Task Force was aware of

Forest Service activities that might impact their rights, and ensuring that their concerns were incorporated into National Forest management to the greatest extent possible.

Larry Heady serves as the Forest Service's senior advisor on Indian Affairs for the 20-state Region. He retires at the end of November after 35 years of service. ■



Above, GLIFWC resolution. Top right, GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Zorn (holding birch bark container), Larry Heady, and Mic Isham, Chairman of the Lac Courte Oreille Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and Chairman of the Commission. Bottom right, singing of Honor Song.

More Photos from Standing Rock *(all photos courtesy CeCe Biggoose)*



Top, CeCe talking with an organizer of the Medicine Wheel and the photographer from Delaware Nation (Kyle) who made the Water Gap film; views of the group and the area. Middle, CeCe was interviewed by a Fargo news station. Bottom, the area during the day and at night, the last meal CeCe cooked for her camp.

Tips for Handling Winter

Michael Marshall

Even though winter comes as no surprise, many of us are not ready for its arrival. If you prepare for winter, you will be more likely to stay safe and healthy when the temperatures start to fall.

Steps for the Home

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

Install weather stripping and insulation.

Insulate water lines that run along exterior walls.

Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.

CHECK YOUR HEATING SYSTEMS

Have your heating systems serviced professionally to make sure that it is clean, working properly, and ventilated to the outside.

Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.

Install a smoke detector. Test the batteries monthly and replace them twice a year.

Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.

PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) EMERGENCIES

Install a carbon monoxide detector.

Test the batteries monthly and change twice a year.

Learn the symptoms of CO poisoning: Headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion.

Don't Forget To Prepare Your Car

Service the radiator and maintain antifreeze level, check tire tread, replace tires if necessary with all season tires.

Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.

Use wintertime formula in your windshield washer.

Prepare a winter emergency kit to keep in your car in case you become stranded:

Cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries.

Blankets.

Food and water.

Booster cables, flares and tire pump.

Compass and maps.

Flashlight, battery powered radio, and extra batteries.

First aid kit and plastic bags.

EQUIP IN ADVANCE FOR EMERGENCIES

Be prepared for weather related emergencies including power outages.

Check on elderly neighbors.

Stock food that needs no cooking or refrigeration and water stored in clean containers.

Ensure your cell phone is fully charged.

When planning travel be aware of current and forecast weather conditions.

Michael Marshall
Housing Program
mmarshall@delawaretribe.org

A "sort of goodbye" to the Editorial Committee, for now

Dana Murrell

As we have made it past the Holidays and looking on into our new year. What possibilities may it hold for each and every one of us? What opportunities, joys or concerns? That is the beauty of life, in my opinion, just the unknowing and the ability to embrace it. It usually doesn't go the way we plan and sometimes that causes disappointments or anxiety, but regardless, it continually goes on and if we aren't careful, sometimes we enjoy it. I believe that our perceptions of what goes on around us are part of our character and we are in charge of that character. So I think that it is important to look at everything with a bit of grace and curiosity and compassion in order to really experience what

is going on around us and everybody that we come into contact with.

With that said, I wish each and every one of you a sort of goodbye for now. I have happened to get caught up in some of my own weirdness and forgot how necessary it is for one to choose to be kind to themselves. So that is what this is: my kindness to myself, although bittersweet. I become obsessed with trying to do things, to a fault, which allows me to take on too much sometimes. I did so on this committee. Although not a journalist, I embraced this opportunity to the best of my abilities in hopes to pass some good vibes to anyone they may come across. I truly enjoyed each moment that I spent

working on this endeavor and I hope that it showed. Although while doing that, my day to day activities and family suffered.

So as I step down from the editorial committee I hope that others step up and enjoy the beauty of creating something special. Watching something grow from start to finish is fascinating especially when you're learning as you go. I have worked with a number of exemplary individuals who also contribute more than anyone is to give credit to. For that I am thankful and I hope that you as a reader are thankful as well. Kudos to the Delaware Tribe and the Delaware Indian News! From, just an Osage neighbor, my best to all.

Dana Murrell
Director of Human Resources
dmurrell@delawaretribe.org

Learn the Lenape Language

Kinship Terms

In using the Lenape language it is important to understand that, unless you are speaking to that person, all kinship terms must be possessed. In other words, you need to use a pronoun with the term (my, your, etc.). You cannot say as in English "Mother went to town." You must tell whose mother you are speaking about. Here are some basic kinship terms:

	[Speaking about]	[Speaking to]
MOTHER	nkahès = my mother	àna = mother
FATHER	nux = my father	nuxa = father
SON	nkwis = my son	nkwitèt = son
DAUGHTER	nichan = my daughter	nichan'tèt = daughter

Note: Nichan also means "my child."

The following terms are also used for great-uncle and great-aunt. There are no separate terms for them in Lenape.

GRANDFATHER	nëmuxumës = my grandfather (speaking of your grandfather) muxumsa = grandfather! (speaking to your grandfather)
GRANDMOTHER	nuhàm = my grandmother (speaking of your grandmother) uma [nuhëma] = grandmother! (speaking to your grandmother)

For more terms, or to hear pronunciation, see the Lenape Talking Dictionary at <http://talk-lenape.org>

Some of the Ways of the Delaware Indian Women

Introduction

The Lenape or Delaware Indians originally lived along the East Coast, occupying most of New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania, and northern Delaware. The lands in the East were lost through deceit and aggression and the Lenape people began a gradual movement westward. Unlike the Cherokee who were moved westward in one sweep, the Lenape were settled and resettled; at various times living in Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, and finally for thirty-six years in Kansas. Pressure was again applied and the Lenape were forced into Indian Territory, and most of the traditional people settled in the area that is presently Washington County, Oklahoma.

The subject of this brief paper is the Lenape or Delaware Indian women and their place in Indian life, but before going into some of the specifics of daily life, it should be pointed out that the role of women in Lenape life was entirely different from that of the European cultures. The Lenape are matrilineal which means that everything descends down from generation to generation through the female line. The children belong to the clan or group of the mother, and therefore, even if one was the son or daughter of a chief, they would not be a prince or princess as was the case with European royalty. The successor to the chieftaincy was the chief's sister's son, or the nearest male relative to the chief within the same clan. This gave the women a powerful voice in tribal matters, but in spite of this 'voice,' it was the tradition for women to not speak out at public gatherings such as councils. If a woman had a point to make she would have

a male relative or her husband state her opinions for her.

Unlike the women in the cultures of many of the Europeans who came to these shores, the Lenape wife was never considered as the property of the husband. Women's roles among the Lenape were clearly defined: the woman had full charge of the home; in fact, she was considered the owner of the house. The woman took care of the food preparation and the man procured the game animals. The woman took care of planting and the garden and the man cleared the land for the gardens.

The Delaware Indian women had a reason for most of the things they did. Even with cooking, we think that the person's mind when they are cooking has something to do with the health of the ones who eat the food. The cook must be in a good frame of mind during the food preparation, not angry, or ill, and have an inside prayer to the Creator that what she prepares will bring strength and happiness to the consumer of the food. Sewing likewise is not done when one is angry lest the wearer will feel unhappy when wearing it. They will feel the "makers" sensations.

Delaware women, especially when we cook outside such as when we camp out, we bend from our waist down to stir our pots. Usually a white woman will stoop down on her knees to attend her cooking pot. That is one of the differences that I see. Then too we old traditional people have a habit of pointing with our lips. Like you say, "Well, right over there," and we point that direction with our lips. But you don't point at people. And neither do you point at graves.

The children in a Lenape family were cared for by both parents, although some of the time the father was gone hunting or fishing as this was necessary for survival, it was not for sport as

is usually the case these days. In the traditional families the children were spaced about three to four years apart, and the women usually nursed their children until they were about three years old.

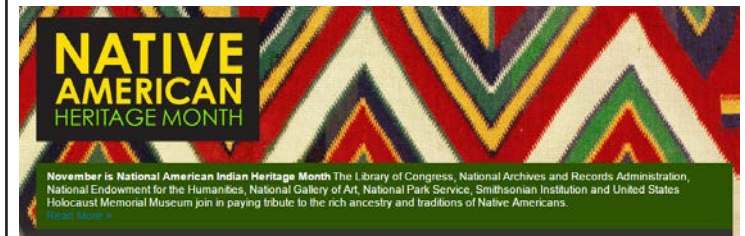
In the Delaware tribe the women disciplined children in the old way. They didn't really use any whips or any paddles or anything. They were taken to the creek, and a basket put over their head and water thrown over that basket. The Lenape said that there is a grandfather spirit in this water will correct all your bad habits, and this water will take away all these obstinate traits you might have. There is another way to correct children. You tell the child that, "Your conduct, your action, brings shame to me and all the people who are gone, you bring shame upon them."

The woman had the freedom to do as she pleased, and she might ask her husband if he wanted to go to some certain place, but if he did not she would just take the children and go, such as to town or to a dance, (most of our dances do not require a partner). Some women also had a special man friend, a non-relative called by the term usually reserved for a female friend, and he served the purpose of a confidant. It was to him she would go with questions or problems she could not discuss with her husband or male relatives.

This account shows just a few of the many facets of the life of a woman among the Lenape people. Most of the older ways have about disappeared among the younger generations as they grow up among the non-Indians, and learn many of their ways in the schools, all too often overlooking the ways of their ancestors.

Nora Thompson Dean
Dewey, Oklahoma
24 January 1983

National Native American Heritage Month



From the Penobscot Nation in Maine to the numerous western Tribal Rancherias in California to the Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians, each park has its own portion of Mother Earth that lends unique ancestral stories that reflects how Native Americans have cared for their own inhabited territory to these sites. Our indigenous stories begin at all park sites, and we encourage all employees to continue to seek out the untold stories and find ways to engage the public in broadening our horizons on diversity and inclusion.

Here are few ways you can get involved in honoring Native Americans all year long:

- Learn more about and share stories of our Native societies and communities.
- Keep an open mind and create relationships with tribal people by welcoming and embracing their culture. Check out the DOI-Bureau of Indian Affairs public website for tribal leaders in your area.
- Reach out to CIRCLE when you need advice, support, or feedback on projects you are developing that involve indigenous communities and stories.
- Embrace and honor the unique "government to government" relationship we have with all 567 federally recognized tribes across the nation.
- Enroll in a Tribal Consultation training course and expand your current Parks' efforts to network, hire, and include tribal members in park decisions.
- Save the date for December 2, 2016 at 2pm Eastern for a web-chat on the meaningful inclusion of indigenous voices and stories in the National Park Service.

The Council for Indigenous Relevancy, Communication, Leadership, and Excellence (CIRCLE) is a resource for employees of the National Park Service to use to enhance their understanding of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian (AI/AN/NH) issues. CIRCLE provides recommendations and guidance to NPS leadership regarding the hiring, retention, and improved visibility of AI/AN/NHs throughout the NPS and is supported by the Office of Relevancy, Diversity, and Inclusion.

For more information, see
<http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/> ■

Obituaries



Diana Lynn Bird

February 15, 1928–
October 14, 2016

Diana Lynn Bird (Diana Lynn Hulsey), of Bartlesville OK, died on Friday, October 14, 2016 at the age of 58. She was born in Elgin, Kane County, IL, on February 15, 1928. She was the second born of a set of twins, born to (the late) Mr. Billy Ray Hulsey and to his wife Bettye Lou Taylor-Hulsey. Mr. Hulsey was the son of Elmer Goldesberry, who in turn was a son of Rosie Curley-head Goldesberry of the Delaware Tribe.

Survivors include her husband Kenneth 'Jay' Bird who is an Osage Tribal member, her mother Bettye Hulsey of Illinois, her daughter Brandi France of Bartlesville OK, her granddaughter Riley Owens (Boo Bear, as Diana so fondly called her), her identical twin sister - Debra Schow of Washington, two half-sisters - Kimberly Whitney and Nicole Williams, three nephews and one niece and Brenda Hulsey, the surviving spouse of Diana's father.

Diana and Jay were married on April 26, 2006. She was a member of the Culture Preservation Committee of the Delaware Tribe for ten years and she enjoyed traditional tribal activities like the social dances. Her Delaware name was Nexuhainao which means "She Who Appears

Alone," and it was given to her by tribal elder Leonard Thompson on May 23, 2002. Diana was always a very caring person. During her battle with cancer, she was always more concerned about others than she was for herself. One of the things she valued most in her life was her family. Her faith was so inspiring to others and she did not fear death. She will be missed, and she will not be forgotten. ■



Robin Secondine Hawkins

September 24, 1956–
October 31, 2016

Rosealee Robin Secondine Hawkins was born September 24, 1956 in Bartlesville, OK to Leonard and Frances Marion (Adams) Cheever. Robin was a Registered Nurse who worked many years in the nursing profession including hospice and home health in the Bartlesville area. She loved spending time with her beloved grandchildren. She is survived by her son, Jeffrey Mac Hawkins of Bartlesville. She was blessed with two grandchildren; Bailee and Caden Hawkins. Robin is also survived by four sisters; Bonnie

Fambrini and husband Dale of San Jose, CA, Darlene Lowry of Dewey, Deana Evans and husband Sam of Copan, numerous nieces, nephews and many friends. Robin was preceded in death by his parents, daughter, Misty Dawn (Hawkins) Lowry, brother, Tony Waddell, and sister, Charlene Abernethy.

Officiants
Reverend Rick Woodward
Funeral
11/05/2016 10:00 am
Graveside
Busby-Copan Cemetery, east of Fall Leaf Drive. Copan OK. ■



Doris Alene "Goldesberry" Warnock-Holler

November 18, 1935–
September 7, 2016

Doris was born November 18, 1935, in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma, to parents Elmer and J. Louise (Orr) Goldesberry. She passed away Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at The Journey Home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

For over 40 years Doris worked as an agent at the Jim Stewart Insurance Agency in Bartlesville. She was also a member of the American Business Women's Association. Doris enjoyed reading, doing word search puzzles and watching game shows on televi-

sion. She also loved to spend every moment she could at her cabin at Lake Havana, Kansas. The true foundation of her life, though, was her religion and her faith. Since 2003 Doris had been a member of West Oak Baptist Church. Doris enjoyed singing in church every chance she got.

Doris is survived by her sons Allen "Russ" Carey and wife Donita of Viola, Kansas, and Albert Warnock and wife Wilma of Skiatook, Oklahoma; four grandchildren Tony Carey, Josh Carey, Moriah Widener and Adriane Jones; nine great grandchildren; and a host of other friends and family.

Memorial services were held Monday, September 12, 2016, at West Oak Baptist Church in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. ■

If one of your relatives or close friends has passed, please send us an obituary. We will run it in the next *Delaware Indian News*. Obituaries can be sent to din@delawaretribe.org or to the Tribal Offices.

Please also pass along any birth or death announcements to the Enrollment Office at lfall-leaf@delawaretribe.org. Remember that the Community Services Committee has a burial assistance program if you need help. ■

EARTH DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017 • 8 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
Dispose of your hazardous household waste in an environmentally-responsible manner.

FREE OF CHARGE!

OPERATION CLEAN:OUSE
Hazardous household waste disposal and recycling

Donations will be accepted on site.

MATERIALS WHICH CAN BE DISCARDED:		
<p>Phillips 66 Parking Lot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compact fluorescent bulbs • Pollutants • Household cleaners and toxins • First-aid products • Pesticides • Herbicides • Acids • Caustics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paint thinners • Household flammable liquids • Smoke alarms • Oil-based paints (no latex paint) • Oil-based aerosol and hobby paints • Pharmaceuticals • Electronics (cell phones, computers, TVs, VCRs, microwaves, rechargeable batteries, most electronic devices) 	<p>Washington County District 2: (2 Miles East on 9th St. off Highway 75)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used motor oil, Max. 5 gal. container • Antifreeze • Automotive batteries • Car/pickup tires (limit 8, NO Dealers) • Appliances - e.g. washers, dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators (with Freon-free certification)
MATERIALS WHICH CANNOT BE ACCEPTED:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ammunition • Biohazardous waste • Commercially generated waste • Dioxins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Household batteries Alkaline, 9-volt, D, C, AA, AAA • Latex paints • Pressurized gas cylinders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radioactive waste • Unknowns • Trash • Water-reactive chemicals

Together, we're providing a safer, healthier environment in the place we all call home.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:
Delaware Tribe • Dink's BBQ • Keleher Outdoor Advertising • KWON • Osage Nation • Walmart

For additional info, call Washington County Commissioners at 918.337.2820.
facebook.com/OperationCleanHouseWashingtonCounty

Community Services and Education

Community Services Programs

If you have questions, please contact the Tribal Office at 918-337-6590.

Burial Program: Burial assistance for Delaware tribal members. The family may apply for up to \$500. The funds may be applied to expenses that are most beneficial to the family (i.e., funeral services, meals, wake, grave marker etc.). Documentation must be provided, including death certificate.

Dental Assistance: Assistance for dental services up to \$250. Services may include tooth repair, dental fillings, dentures or emergency services. Routine dental exams or cleaning are not covered. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

Elder Optical Assistance: Assistance for optical services to elders age 60 and over. Funds may be used for services, including glasses, physician's visits or related costs up to \$200 annually. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

Elder Prescription Medication Assistance: Prescription medication assistance to Delaware elders age 60 and over for pharmacy and related costs. Elders may receive assistance not to exceed \$900 per calendar year. Elders may apply more than once per calendar year until \$900 is reached. Funds may be disbursed to vendors on a monthly basis not to exceed \$75 per month for long-term recurring medication. Elders must include a statement from the pharmacy showing the continuing service. This addresses Elders who have an ongoing monthly pharmacy bill and must renew application annually.

Emergency and Emergency Travel Assistance: Emergency assistance to Delaware tribal members. Funds are to be used for emergency situations. Assistance includes, but is not limited to, groceries or related assistance, or health transportation costs. Applicants must utilize all other community resources prior to application. Funds are allocated up to \$200 and will be disbursed as

determined by the Community Service Committee on a case-by-case basis.

Medical and Hospital Equipment Assistance: Assistance to pay medical bills, including but not limited to medical equipment (purchase or rental), home health care, pharmacy, etc. not to exceed \$200. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

Rental Assistance: Assistance in emergency situations on a one-month, one-time, once-a-year basis. Amount of assistance that can be approved is limited up to \$200. Eviction notice and/or other documentation must be submitted with the application. Approval of application must be obtained prior to payment. The Tribal member's name must be on the rental/lease contract. Payment will be made to the landlord.

Student Optical Assistance: Assistance to students enrolled in grades K-12, college/universities, and vocational technology schools. Funds can be designated to pay for glasses, contacts, physician visits or related costs. Each request may not exceed \$200. Approval of application must be obtained prior to payment for services. One request per calendar year, not to exceed \$200. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

You can download the applications directly from our web site at www.delawaretribe.org. Just go to the Services/Programs tab, and then scroll down to Community Services.

PLEASE NOTE: The Community Services Committee has adopted income guidelines for all assistance programs with the exception of Burial Assistance. ■



Education Committee Assistance/Programs

Take advantage of these programs; they are here for you! If you have any questions, please contact the Tribal Office at 918-337-6590.

The Education Assistance programs provide financial aid to tribal members of all ages from Pre-School to college, and also Adult Vocational Technology training. Programs available to our members are listed below.

PROGRAMS

Academic Achievement Award: This \$100 award is available on a one-time basis to registered Delaware Tribal members who have graduated in the current fiscal/academic school year from high school, college, or Vo-Tech with a current 3.5 GPA (grade point average).

Athletic Assistance: This program is for registered Delaware Tribe of Indians students who need some type of assistance for students involved in school-sponsored athletic programs (such as baseball, football, basketball, track, cheerleader, etc.), for items required, but not provided by the school (such as shoes, baseball mitts, mouth pieces, etc.) Students may be reimbursed up to \$50 per application per fiscal year. Applications are approved on a case-by-case basis. Awards are based on the availability of funds.

Drivers Education Assistance: Can be used to help defray costs of driver's education classes through an accredited training facility. This program has a maximum of \$75 per applicant per fiscal year. The assistance will be made based on funding availability.

Education Assistance: This program is for students ages 6th thru 12th grade who are registered members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians who need some type of assistance while enrolled in school, such as graduation expenses, ACT exams, summer school, band, choir, etc. This program has a maximum payment of \$50.00 per applicant per fiscal year.

School Supply Assistance: Helps registered members of the Delaware Tribe of

Indians with the cost of purchasing the needed school supplies for children in grades Pre-K through 5th grade. School Supply Assistance applications may be submitted from July 1 to September 30 or until funds are exhausted. Application deadline is September 30 of every year. Assistance is available up to \$40 per child with receipt of purchase. Please submit separate receipts for each application. Acceptable receipts shall only include the school supplies purchased (no groceries or household items).

Trust Fund Higher Education School Scholarship: Delaware Tribal members attending college are eligible to apply. Currently, full-time students may apply for \$400 per semester for up to eight semesters, and part-time students may apply for \$200 per semester up to 16 semesters. Semesters do not have to be consecutive. Applicants must submit all required documentation, including official transcripts and enrollment verification from the college or university. Students must maintain a 2.7 GPA (grade point average) in the last semester attended (high school, college, etc.) Students must reapply at the end of each semester. Award is made directly to student to insure that it does not interfere with their financial aid package from the institution. Scholarships will not be awarded for the summer semester. Scholarships are subject to funding availability.

Fall scholarship applications will be accepted from June 1 through July 31, spring from January 1 through February 28.

You can download the applications directly from our web site www.delawaretribe.org. Just go the Services/Programs tab, and then scroll down to Educational Assistance. ■

2016 Tribal Election Results

DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

GENERAL ELECTION
Bartlesville, Oklahoma
November 5, 2016

OFFICIAL RESULTS

	POLL PLACE	BY MAIL	TOTAL
TRIBAL COUNCIL			
Larry Joe Brooks	13	348	361
Lu Ann Hainline	27	204	231
Michelle Holley	19	107	126
Annette Ann Ketchum	25	156	181
Jenifer Jo Pechonick	13	49	62
Paula Kathleen Pechonick	13	87	100
Charles Edward Randall	28	296	324
Karla Michelle Vernon	8	63	71
Nathan Harrison Young IV	30	261	291
TRUST BOARD CHAIR			
Mary Jolene Peterson	53	506	559
TRUST BOARD MEMBER			
Marilyn S. Cole	26	342	368
Jeffrey Mack Hawkins	16	258	274
Autumn Elizabeth Stewart	41	269	310
Roger D. Stewart	41	273	314
John Milford Thomas	39	340	379
TRIBAL JUDGE			
Bethany Sue Jackson	46	466	512
Nathan Harrison Young III	46	465	511
PROPOSED BUDGET CHANGE			
Adopt/Yes	38	484	522
Do Not Adopt/No	21	86	107
TOTAL BALLOTS CAST	60	540	600

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate abstract of the votes cast for the General Election shown herein for the Delaware Tribe of Indians on November 5, 2016. We also certify that said election was held in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

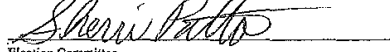
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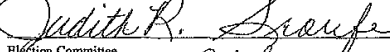
Election Committee



Election Committee



Election Committee



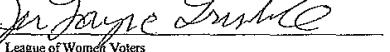
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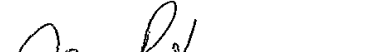
Election Committee



League of Women Voters



League of Women Voters



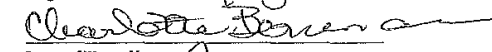
League of Women Voters



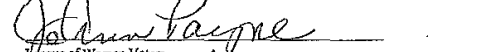
League of Women Voters



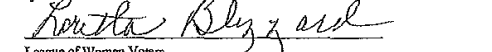
League of Women Voters



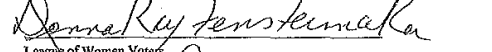
League of Women Voters



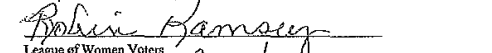
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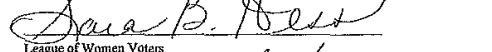
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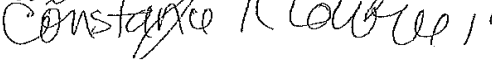


League of Women Voters



League of Women Voters





Tribal Member Mary Jo Pratt Part of 2016 "Native American 40 Under 40"

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) is pleased to announce its 2016 "Native American 40 Under 40" award recipients have been selected. This prestigious award recognizes 40 emerging American Indian leaders from across Indian Country who have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication and made significant contributions in business and/or in their community.

Bryan Bainbridge - Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Tamarah Begay - Navajo Nation (Dine')

Bree Black Horse - Cherokee Nation

Amanda Carlow - Oglala Lakota Nation

Jessica Cree Jock - St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

Nicole Ducheneaux - Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

Danielle Finn - Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Sarai Geary - Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Ellen Harju - Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Sarah Harris - Mohegan Tribe

Kathryn Isom-Clause - Taos Pueblo

Christina Jimerson - Seneca Nation of Indians

Roger Johnson - Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Thomas Jones - Cherokee Nation / Naknek Village Council

Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton - Cherokee Nation

Sara LaBarge - Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin

Kishan Lara-Cooper - Yurok Tribe

Kelsey Leonard - Shinnecock Indian Nation

Cory Littlepage - Chickasaw Nation

Ben Mallott - Tlingit and Koyukon Athabaskan

Chad Marchand - Colville Confederated Tribes

Nakina Mills - Oglala Lakota Nation

Rebecca Nagle - Cherokee Nation

Mindy Natt - Yurok Tribe

Steven Peters - Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

Rhonda Pitka - Koyukon Athabaskan and Inupiaq Eskimo

Heather Pouliot VanZile - Forest County Potawatomi

Community

Mary Jo Pratt - Osage Nation, Delaware Tribe of Indians, Cherokee Nation

Gordon Pullar, Jr - Tangirnaq Native Village

Princella RedCorn - Omaha Tribe of Nebraska

Cary Lee Rosenbaum II - Confederated Tribes Of The Colville Reservation

Linda Sacks - Cherokee Nation

Cheyenne Sanders - Yurok Tribe

Stephanie Sfridis - Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

Casey Sixkiller - Cherokee Nation

Travis Thompson - Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Bryan Warner - Cherokee Nation

Nicole Willis - Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Tanaya Winder - Duckwater Shoshone Tribe

Natalie Youngbull - Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

**In the Tribal Court of the Delaware Tribe of Indians
Caney, Kansas**

Annette Ketchum, in her official)
Capacity as Secretary of the)
Tribal Council, Petitioner.)
)
and)
)
Karla Michelle Vernon,)
Intervening Petitioner,)
)
vs.)
)
Chester L. Brooks, in his official)
Capacity as Chief of the)
Delaware Tribe, Respondent,)
)
and)
)
Nathan H. Young, Council Member,)
And Bonnie Jo Griffith, Assistant Chief,)
Intervening Respondents.)



CASE NO. CV-16-001

**OPINION AND ORDER ON RESPONDENTS’ MOTION TO
DISMISS MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

On 8/2/16, Tribal Council Secretary Annette Ketchum filed paperwork with this court asking us to order an election date pursuant to three recall petitions of council members which allege malfeasance. The Initiative Petitions, among other things, called for the removal of Chester Brooks, Councilman Nathan H. Young, and Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith from office. On 8/5, this court vacated, for a multitude of reason, the “*Notice and Service of Petition to Set Election Date*” signed by the Court Clerk. In the same order, the Court gave the Petitioner the opportunity to refile pleadings that conformed to the Tribe’s Rules of Civil Procedure.

On 8/11, the Petitioner filed a “*Complaint for Writ of Mandamus*,” asking this court to order Chief Chester L. Brooks to set an election on three Initiative Petitions (16-0 1, 16-02, and 16-03). The three petitions seek to recall Assistant Chief Griffith (16-01), Councilman Young (16-02), and Chief Brooks (16-03). All three petitions use the same language to define the purpose of the petition:

An Act to recall the election of ... held on the 3rd of November, 2014; to terminate the salary of ... effective immediately; to prohibit ... from

holding any elected or appointed position with the Delaware Tribe of Indians in the future; and to prohibit the Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians from reinstating the salary, office, or any other position, or employment for any reason in the future, and to prohibit the Delaware Tribe of Indians or any of its affiliated branches of businesses from hiring him/her in any capacity in the future.

The petitions continued to provide the crux of the purported resolution.

Be it enacted by the eligible voting membership of the Delaware Tribe of Indians Pursuant to Article VIII of the Constitution and Article III of the Bylaws of the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

1. The election of [Chief/Tribal Council member] [Brooks/Griffith/Young] held on the [1st day of November, 2014 or 3rd day of November, 2012] is hereby recalled, effective immediately;
2. All payments of wages, salary, or fees to [Brooks/Griffith/Young] is terminated herein for acting in the capacity as [Chief/Tribal Council] of the Delaware Tribe and shall be terminated immediately; except those due and payable at the time this resolution is enacted.
3. The Tribal Council shall not reinstate the salary of [Brooks/Griffith/Young] as terminated herein for any reason, nor pay such individual any wages, salaries or fees as a consultant before [November 1, 2014 or 3rd day of November, 2012].
4. If any section of this resolution and act of the General Council acting within the powers as the supreme authority of the Delaware Tribe of Indians Shall be found unlawful, the remaining provisions shall be in full force and effective as tribal law.

The remaining narrative sections of the petitions vary a little from each other. As to Assistant Chief Griffith, it provides:

We, the undersigned members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, being duly enrolled, respectfully direct that Bonnie Jo Griffith be recalled and discharged from office *due to abuse of authority, dishonesty, interfering with Tribal Council members and officer duties, and using her office for personal gain*; I have personally signed this petition; I am an enrolled member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, aged 18 or older; my address is correctly stated, and to my knowledge I have signed this petition only once.

As to Councilman Young, it provides:

We, the undersigned members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, being duly enrolled, respectfully direct that Nathan H. Young be recalled and discharged from office *due to abuse of authority, crimes of dishonesty, interfering with Tribal Council members and officer duties, and using his office wrongly*; I have personally signed this petition; I am an enrolled member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, aged 18 or older; my address is correctly stated, and to my knowledge I have signed this petition only once.

As to Chief Brooks, it provides:

We, the undersigned members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, being duly enrolled, respectfully direct that Chester L “Chet” Brooks be recalled and discharged from office *due to malfeasance, the use of position for personal and financial gain, abuse of authority, crimes of dishonesty, interfering with Tribal Council members and officer duties*; I have personally signed this petition; I am an enrolled member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, aged 18 or older; my address is correctly stated, and to my knowledge I have signed this petition only once.

Nowhere in any of the three petitions does it list details concerning any criminal convictions or specific criminal laws that have been violated.

The Petitioner’s complaint alleges that the three petitions were verified and filed on 7/5/2016. All petitions contain at least 100 signatures. The Respondents dispute the validity of several of the signatures, but that concern will not be addressed in this Opinion and Order. As of today’s date, 2/3 of the Tribal Council has not voted to recall any of the three individuals. As of today’s date, no vote has been held by the membership concerning the petitions. When Chief Brooks failed to call for an election within 45 days of the filing of the petitions, the Petitioner sought the assistance of the Tribal Court.

On 8/16, Chief Brooks submitted a “*Motion to Dismiss*,” which was signed by himself, Assistant Chief Griffith, and Councilman Young. On 8/18, Chief Brooks filed a pleading entitled “*Amendments to Response of Complaint of Writ of Mandamus and Motion to Dismiss*.” Because of the nature of this case, the Court wanted to handle it on an expedited timeframe. On 8/18, in order to handle the arguments raised by Chief Brooks and the other members of the Council and this case in general in a timely fashion, this Court set the Defendant’s Motion for a hearing and added Councilman Young and Assistant Chief Griffith as Intervening Respondents. On 9/6, Secretary Ketchum filed an *Objection to the Motion to Dismiss* and her attorney, Alyssa D. Campbell, filed an *Entry of Appearance*. On 9/9, Karla Michelle Vernon asked to be allowed to intervene in the lawsuit because she was the drafter of the petitions. On 9/14, this Court granted Ms. Vernon’s request to intervene. The Court also granted the Petitioner’s request to adjourn the hearing date. A hearing was held on the Respondent’s Motion to Dismiss in the afternoon of 10/5.

Standard of Review

The *Respondents’ Motion to Dismiss* was a request to rule on the law; in effect, whether the petitions filed meet the constitutional requirements for recall petitions. Although it appeared that there are contested facts (e.g., whether signatures were in fact, true and accurate), those contested facts do not prohibit the court from issuing a ruling on the law as to the correct procedure to seek recall under the Constitution. As a result, the court treated the *Motion to Dismiss* as a Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings in accordance with Section 13-207(c) of the Tribe’s Civil Procedure Rules.

Summary judgment is appropriate where the pleadings and discovery show that there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and that the movant is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law. The moving party, the Respondents in this case, has the initial burden of proving that no genuine issue of material fact exists and the court must draw all reasonable inferences in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party. When a motion for summary judgment is properly made and supported and the nonmoving party fails to respond with a showing sufficient to establish an essential element of its case, summary judgment is appropriate.

ANALYSIS

Although we are an old Tribe, our laws and the use of our court is fairly new. As with any government, there will be disputes and we are pleased to see the membership attempt to resolve them through the court system. It is a part of good governance for our elected officials to be mindful of the law and for our citizens to hold our elected officials accountable. We would like to think that this lawsuit was brought in that spirit. That said, the process pursued by the Petitioners does not comport with the Tribe’s Constitution. The ruling today does not speak to whether the elected officials are performing their jobs well or whether they have done bad things in their past. The Order today only addresses what is allowed under the Tribe’s Constitution.

Article X of the Constitution of the Delaware Tribe provides for Recall/Removal from Office. Under the Cannons of Construction, because there is a provision in the Constitution that governs recalls and removals, anything not listed in that Article is not allowed under the law. Article X in its entirety states:

Section 1. If any elected member of the Delaware Tribal government is convicted of a felony or crime which involves dishonesty, his office shall be considered forfeited upon 2/3 vote of the Tribal Council by resolution, or by 2/3 of votes cast by eligible voting membership.

Section 2. Any member of the Delaware Tribal Council not in attendance of two consecutive, unexcused absences, at the regularly scheduled Council meetings, shall forfeit his office.

Accordingly, elected officials of the Delaware Tribe can only be removed under one of those two provisions. Also important to our analysis, the Tribe’s Constitution does not spell out qualifications to hold office.

It was made clear during oral argument that we are dealing only with Section 1 and not Section 2. Section 2 of Article X is written such that a vote of Council or the membership is not required. If two consecutive meetings are missed and not excused, the individual is automatically no longer on Council. Section 1 is written differently. Section 1 requires a conviction and a vote of either the membership or the Council. As discussed above, there has been no vote of the council or membership as of yet. Although there are petitions calling for a vote of the membership, we still have to determine whether a prerequisite conviction exists. In order for a vote of Council or the membership to be held, the triggering conviction must have occurred.

In order for an elected official to be removed from office, the conviction must have occurred while the official is serving an elected term. First, the Constitution does not prohibit candidates with convictions in their past from seeking office. Second, the language is also in the present tense, where an elected official “is convicted” and not “has been convicted.” Third the plain language of the Constitution refers to an “elected member” being convicted, making it clear that the person receiving the conviction is at that time an elected official. Fourth, the drafters of the Constitution decided to make it very hard to remove elected officials and we want to respect their desires and the will of the electorate that voted in these officials. Accordingly, under Section 1, the only basis for recall is a felony conviction or a conviction for a crime involving dishonesty received while the official is in office.

As discussed above, the moving party has the initial burden of proving that no genuine issue of material fact exists and the court must draw all reasonable inferences in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party. Nowhere in the Complaint for Writ of Mandamus were any convictions referenced. Nowhere in any of the three petitions were listed any convictions by any of the three Respondents. At oral argument there did appear to be disputed facts as to what crimes, if any, of which Chief Brooks and Councilman Young have been convicted. However, the Petitioners also did not allege that either Chief Brooks or Councilman Young were convicted of any crimes while serving their terms in office. No allegations were ever made that Assistant Chief Griffith has been convicted of a crime. As a result, there are no genuine issues of material fact before the court because there is no allegation that any of the three have been convicted of a felony or convicted of a crime involving dishonesty while they were in office. Without the prerequisite convictions, there is no legitimate recalled election to be set and, as a result, Chief Brooks appropriately did not ask either the Council or the membership to vote on whether the officials should be recalled.

CONCLUSION

Section 1 of Article X of the Tribe’s Constitution only allows for a vote of the membership on recall if the elected official was convicted of a felony or convicted of a crime involving dishonesty while in office. Because there is no allegation that any of the three Respondents have been convicted of any crimes while during this term, the Constitution does not allow for a recall election at this time.

Dated: October 13, 2016

Assistant Chief Judge Cameron Ann Fraser
Judge Richard Barnes



ATTENTION CHILOCCO INDIAN SCHOOL GRADUATES

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MEMBERS OF THE GOLDEN CLASS OF 1967. IT IS OUR YEAR!

WHAT: 50TH YEAR GRADUATING REUNION

WHEN: JUNE 15-17, 2017

**WHERE: CHILOCCO AND FIRST COUNCIL CASINO
EVENT CENTER, NEWKIRK, OK**

Make new friends, re-new old acquaintances and have fun at the 2017 Chilocco Annual Reunion. For further information and get your name on the list, please contact *Freida Homeratha* at 405-535-1765.



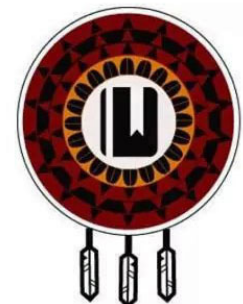
Donations for Education Scholarships Gratefully Accepted

We invite tribal members and others to contribute to a special fund for educational scholarships. Donors are recognized in five levels:

Brass Level	up to \$ 100
Silver Level	\$ 100-500
Gold Level	\$ 500-1,000
Wampum Level	\$ 1,000-5,000
Wampum Belt Level	above \$ 5,000

Send donations to

**Delaware Tribe of Indians
Trust Board, Education Committee
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006-2746**



Tribal Flag Goes to Standing Rock



Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith, Trust Board members and veterans Joe Brooks and Homer Scott assist Frank White Bull (representative of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe) raising the flag of the Delaware Tribe of Indians at the Oceti Sakowin camp on Saturday, September 10, 2016. The trio carried two resolutions in support of NODAPL, a monetary donation, supplies and our flag to the site.

Thanksgiving Day at Standing Rock



Director of Family & Children Services Curtis Zunigha went to Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota for Thanksgiving Day. He brought donations of food & medical supplies for the #NoDAPL water protectors and joined ceremonies praying for peace.

Elders Trip to Woolaroc



Elders Trip to Woolaroc; Bonnie Thaxton kissing Santa Claus.

Check Out the Tribal Web Site

Have you visited our Tribe's web site recently? Additional material that we were unable to include in the DIN can often be found there.

Go to:

www.delawaretribe.org

OFFICIAL WEB SITE OF THE
DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS



Be Fit



Delaware Tribe
Wellness
Center

Our services include:

- Treadmills
- Elliptical Machines, Bikes
- Free Weights
- Fitness Machines
- Showers & Locker Room



BE HEALTHY, BE FIT,

No Appointment needed

NATIVE PROUD