



DELAWARE INDIAN NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

Lënapeí Pampil

October 2025 • Volume 48, Issue No. IV

From the Desk of Chief Brad KillsCrow

Brad KillsCrow, Chief, Delaware Tribe of Indians

Hè, kulamalsi hàch, as we move more into the winter months, we have continued to keep pushing on progress here at the Delaware Tribe! We have been actively working on the construction of the new Cultural Center and Gymnasium to be constructed here on campus in Bartlesville. The renderings of the drawings are also in this issue of the DIN (see page 25). It was very important to me and this Tribal Council to construct and maintain a modern-day cultural center that will allow us to retrieve, store, and go after our artifacts that are sitting on shelves in various museums across the country. With this new cultural center there will be plenty of storage, appropriate lighting, and all the tools that it takes to maintain and take care of our artifacts in a responsible manner. I'm excited about this project as it will tell our story! The gymnasium is also planned to be constructed around the same time as the cultural center. The gymnasium will have an indoor basketball court, locker rooms, kitchen, new workout equipment, and many other things that will encourage our membership to live a healthier lifestyle! The construction of both projects will begin this November and will conclude December 2026.

At the end of July, I traveled to Scranton, PA, where a Lenape Mural was created by Lenape artist Ben Scott Miller and world-renowned muralist Be-

lin. The mural brings to life the enduring spirit, traditions, and cultural legacy of the Lenape through this breathtaking masterpiece. I want to acknowledge and thank Ben Miller for his work and honoring our people!

General Council meeting will be held this year on the 22nd of November, due to scheduling conflicts and travel. Delaware Constitution Article 11 Section 1: A General council meeting of the adult membership shall be held on a Saturday, during the month of November, at which time the Chief or his designated spokesman shall make a "State of the Tribe" address. Notice of this annual membership meeting shall be given by the Chief not less than 30 nor more than 45 days preceding the meeting.

In closing we are all of one people, the Lenape people. We must always strive for excellence and be committed to doing what is right. The way we talk to each other, even if we disagree, we should still have the common respect as Lenape to communicate in a way that is positive. The more we strive to uplift each other and be there for each other the less divided we will be.

Wanishi
Brad KillsCrow
Chief ■

Delaware Tribe of Indians

2025 General Council

November 22, 2025

Forsythe Hall
Delaware Community Center
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Doors Will Open at 11:00 A.M.
Lunch at Noon
Meeting Will Start at 1:30 P.M.

Enrollment Available



From The Desk of Assistant Chief Tonya Anna

Tonya Anna, Assistant Chief, Delaware Tribe of Indians

One thing I've learned as Assistant Chief is that unless you've served on Tribal Council before, it takes some time to really get up to speed—no matter what office you hold. When the Tribal Council was asked to participate in the Focus Area 2 monitoring reviews, I'll admit I was a bit lost at first, since I wasn't familiar with what they were. FA2 monitoring reviews are actually a wonderful opportunity for programs to show how effectively they're supporting school readiness and positive outcomes for children and their families. This process includes helpful discussions, data reviews, and observations. The Chief and I took part in an interview with the monitoring team, where we answered all sorts of questions about Head Start and our Tribe. I shared with the panel that I never had the chance to participate in a Head Start program myself, since it wasn't available where I grew up. One of the interviewers kindly suggested I attend the National Indian Head Start Directors Association (NIHSDA) conference coming up in June—a chance to learn more. I took their advice to heart and registered, especially since I was asked to help advise the Policy Council as part of the Tribal Council. Unsure of which sessions to choose, I picked the Leadership Blueprint: Strengthening Individuals, Teams, and Culture. One of the best things about this conference was staying with the same group

of people for all three days. While you could switch sessions, they encouraged us to stick with our group to get the most out of the experience. The National Indian Head Start Directors Association Management Training Conference was held in Bloomington, MN from June 23 to 26, 2025, and brought together 456 attendees, including 12 leaders from various tribal entities.

One of the first things I learned was about the zones—Oklahoma is in zone 4 along with Kansas and Texas. There are actually 10 zones across the United States, and to participate, you must be a federally recognized tribe within one of these zones. This meant we had people from all over the country and it was wonderful to connect and interact with everyone at different levels. The track I joined was led by Alyson McKinster, Senior Manager of Organizational Performance at Wipfli LLP. In this track, we focused on team building—learning about self-awareness, relationships, and team dynamics to strengthen collaboration, communication, and effectiveness. The program was thoughtfully designed to help leaders better understand themselves, their colleagues, and their teams, so they could lead more effectively and build stronger organizations. By the end of the conference, one message was clear: people and organizations truly care about the children who come out of Head Start. These children often seem more outgoing and prepared, which makes

things easier for their teachers. Not only do they receive a great education, but they also get access to important services like vision and hearing checks, dental care, and healthy eating habits—services that aren't always available elsewhere.

I am excited to watch the Policy Council organize and come together to give parents and children another opportunity for a better life and to assist them along the way.

Last year our Housing Department underwent a HUD audit, which revealed several findings. As a result, we received technical assistance from August 5-7, 2025. I attended on-campus HUD training, making it easier to learn the necessary regulations alongside the Housing Department team and Housing Committee Chairman Farrell Burks. While attendance was lower than expected, we still gained valuable knowledge to help us address audit findings. Since I was new to HUD procedures, the learning curve was steep, but progress was made. I want to commend Steven Landsberry, Mike Garcia, and Colton Lacey for persistently working to improve our department's efficiency. HUD representative Wayne Mundy led the training, covering key topics such as

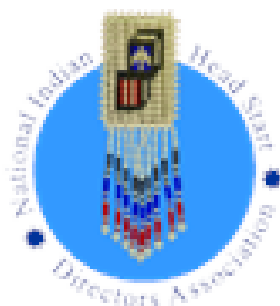
NAHASDA, the 1937 Housing Act, eligibility, grant management, and compliance. If you are interested in this field, explore www.hud.gov for more information—there is always something new to learn.

The HUD Training continued with Rob Jordan and Maria Tagliavento from September 9-11, 2025. Although attendance for this training was minimal, Sarah Donelson participated specifically for the accounting portion relevant to the Housing Department. Sarah and Colton spent a full day working with Maria on financial aspects. During the sessions led by Rob, I was able to ask many questions with Mike and Steven's patient support, as only three of us attended. This training covered topics such as Administrative & Planning, efficiency in environmental reviews, self-monitoring, the Code of Federal Regulations, Public Indian Housing notices, Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG), Indian Housing

Plan, Annual Performance Report, and reimbursable funding agreements. Again, WANISHI to the Housing Department and Sarah for the continuous improvement to keep us in compliance!

"Fall is proof that change is beautiful." (author unknown) Change can be difficult, especially when support is limited and things seem chaotic. However, adapting to change outside your control can help you grow. Effective communication is vital; every workplace faces communication challenges. Build strong relationships, seek mentors, and develop your leadership style. With support and focus on growth, you can set a positive example—even in uncertain times.

Wanishi,
Tonya Anna, Assistant Chief ■



The Elders Circle

Jana Roth

kikayàk òkànkwèphatuwàk

Elder Committee Activities

October 7, 14, & 21 – Beading Circle.

FCS Building, 1 - 4 P.M.
Elders, bring your unfinished beadwork projects and your own supplies. Jonnie Donnell will be available to help you with your beadwork questions. For more information, email delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com.

October 11 – Learn to Decorate a Walking Stick with Artist Jacque MacDonald.

FCS Building, 1- 4 P.M.
All supplies will be provided to Delaware Tribal ELDERS 55+ for this in-person class. To register, email delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com

October 28 - Elders Committee Meeting at 1 P.M. in the FCS Building.

October 31 – SPOOKY FREE Family Game Night.

Forsythe Hall, 5 to 9 PM.
Bring the kids for some old-fashioned Halloween fun!
Everyone is welcome, but minors must be accompanied by an adult.
This will be our last game night for 2025, but we'll be back in 2026.

November 15 – Trip to Keep-sake Candles in Bartlesville.

This trip is open to ALL Delaware Tribal ELDERS 55+.
To sign-up, email delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com. Space is limited.

December 6 – Trip to Sharps Indian Store in Ponca City.

This trip is open to ALL Delaware Tribal ELDERS 55+.
To sign-up, email delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com. Space is limited.

Note: The Delaware Tribe of Indians Trust Fund supplies the monies for the Elders Committee program. Funding is regulated by the Trust Document and administered by the Trust Board.

As stated in the Trust Document, Article III, Section D, Number 8, “Only registered members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, as provided in the Delaware Tribal Constitution, are eligible to receive services and programs presented in this [Program] plan.” However, “FREE” classes and activities that do not use Trust Funds are open to non-tribal participants.

Sign-up sheets and announcements will be posted to the DTI Elders Facebook page or you can email delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com to register for classes and activities. For the latest information, JOIN US at our monthly Elders Committee Meetings!

All classes and activities are held at the Delaware Tribal Complex, 5100 Tuxedo Blvd., Bartlesville, OK 74006.

Elders Visit Lenapehoking

Five tribal elders were invited to return to the homelands in Pennsylvania for a five-day trip to share the history and culture of the Delaware Tribe of Indians with the West Chester community September 8-12, 2025. The trip was sponsored by the Humphry-Marshall Fund of Chester County Historical Center and Historic Yellow Springs. Dressed in traditional regalia, elders Annette Ketchum, Angelia Franke, Billie

Jean Sheshey, Jana Roth, and John Wheelock spoke at the West Chester University of Pennsylvania on our Lenape history followed by a question-and-answer session.

Hè,
If you know an Elder Delaware tribal member who would enjoy receiving greeting cards for birthdays and holidays, please complete and mail or email the following form on page 6 to delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com
If you are a senior citizen (55+) and a member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, we invite you to join our monthly meetings at Tribal Headquarters or on Zoom.

The Elder Committee meets monthly at 1:00 PM, the Tuesday before the Tribal Council meeting in the former Family & Children’s Services (Building #5110), located at Tribal Headquarters, 5100 Tuxedo Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006.

If you can’t make it in person, please join us on Zoom! To attend the meeting by Zoom, email your request to delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com and you will receive instructions on how to connect.

Contact Us

Senior (55+) Delaware tribal members can contact the Elder Committee by email at delawareelder-council2023@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook at the [dtieldercommittee](https://www.facebook.com/dtieldercommittee).

Elder Council Officers:

- Chair**—Beverly Hicks
- Vice Chair**—Jana Roth
- Secretary**—Angelia Franke
- Treasurer**—Mollie Martin
- Sergeant-at-Arms**—Steve Donnell
- Tribal Liaison**—Annette Ketchum
- Elder-at-Large**—Billie Jean Sheshey ■



Pictured left to right, John Wheelock, Billie Jean Sheshey, Jana Roth, Annette Ketchum, and Angelia Franke.

Please send greetings cards to:

Return to:
Beverly Hicks
C/O Delaware Tribe of Indians
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Delaware Tribal Member’s Name: _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Code

Date of Birth: _____

Trust Board Community Services and Education Committees

Community Services Programs

If you have questions, please contact the Tribal Office at (918) 337-6510.

Community Service Applications for the following programs are being accepted, while funding is available. Applicants must be an enrolled tribal member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. As of FY2024, Only one (1) Community Service Application is allowed per tribal member, per calendar year, with the exception of Elder Prescription, which can be applied for monthly, and Burial Assistance.

Burial Program: Assistance up to \$750.00 for the burial assistance for Delaware Tribal members. The family may apply for the funds to be used for expenses that are most beneficial to the family (i.e., funeral services, family meals, wake, grave markers, etc.) Payment will be made as designated by the immediate family.

Emergency Assistance: Emergency assistance to Delaware tribal members. Funds are to be used for emergency situations. Funds

are allocated up to \$400 and will be disbursed as determined by the Community Service Committee on a case-by-case basis. This includes medical and emergency travel.

Elders Program, Prescription Medication Assistance: Prescription medication assistance to Delaware elders age 55 and over for pharmacy and related cost. Funds may be disbursed to vendors or to Elders on a monthly basis not to exceed \$75 per month.

Rental or Mortgage Assistance: Provides emergency

rental/mortgage assistance to Delaware Tribal Members on a one time basis per year. The amount of assistance that can be approved is limited to \$400. Approval of application must be obtained prior to service payment. Payments are made to the vendor or provider of services. Eviction notice, lease agreement or mortgage statement must be submitted with the application. The Tribal Member's name must be on the rental/lease contract or mortgage statement.

Dental Assistance: Provides assistance for dental services up to \$300. Services may include

tooth repair, dental fillings, dentures. Routine dental exams and cleaning are not covered. Payment will be made to the vendor and not the tribal member, unless for reimbursement.

Optical Assistance: Provides assistance for optical services to Delaware Tribal Members. Funds may be used for services, including glasses, physician's visit or related costs. Funds are allocated up to \$200 and will be disbursed as determined by the Community Service Committee on a case-by-case basis. ■

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) 337-6510.

Trust Fund Higher Education School Scholarship: Delaware Tribal Members are eligible for up to \$3,200.00 in scholarship funding. Full-time students may apply for \$400 per semester for up to eight semesters. Semesters do not have to be consecutive. Part-time students will receive \$200 per semester up to 16 semesters.

Fall scholarship applications will be accepted from July 1 through September 15, and Spring scholarship applications from December 1 through February 15.

Driver's Education: This assistance may be used to help defray the cost of attending Driver's Education classes through an accredited training facility for up to \$200.

Extra-Curricular Activity: This assistance is for students involved in school

sponsored extra-curricular programs (for items required but not provided by the school). Students may be reimbursed up to \$100.

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



Donations for Education Scholarships and to the Tribe Gratefully Accepted

We invite tribal members and others to contribute to a special fund for educational scholarships as well as donations to the Tribe's various programs.

For Educational or scholarship donations make your check payable to the Delaware Tribe Trust Board on the memo line write education assistance or scholarship fund

For general donations, other than education, please make your check payable to the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Examples for the memo line could be Food Pantry; Lenape Early Learning Center; Title VI or just specify it as a general donation.

Donors are recognized at 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
ATTN: Trust Board Education Committee (For education donations)

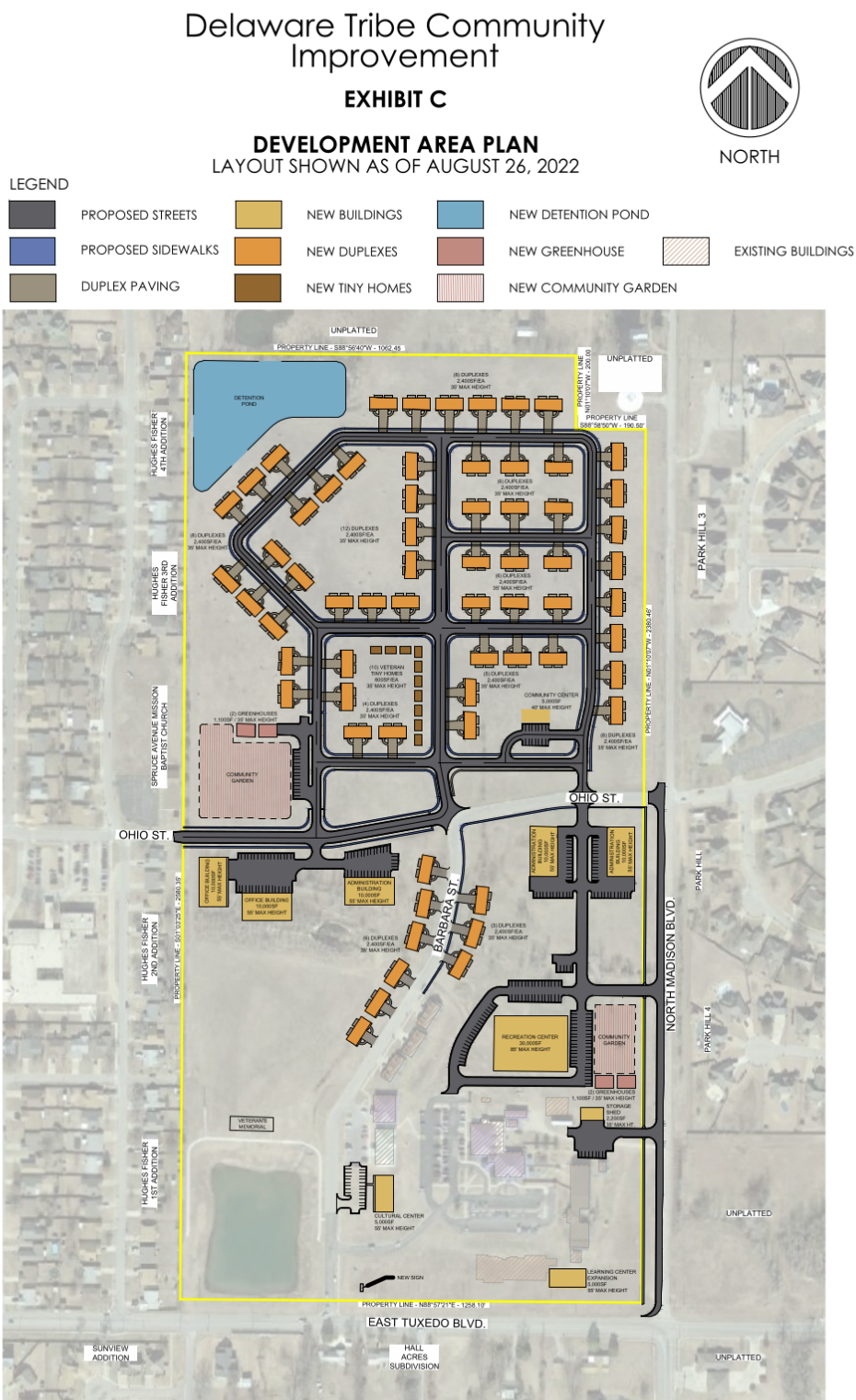
OR

ATTN: Donations (For all other donations)
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006-2746 ■



Planned Unit Development (PUD) for Bartlesville Campus Area

In 2022, the Delaware Tribe developed a planned unit development in Bartlesville. Due to member inquiries, we are sharing information about the PUD in Delaware Indian News.



The Mesingw Comes Home

Ka ku waise (Raincrow)- Steven Donnell

In our long history as a people we have always had items that have defined us. Our Big House, our clothes, our designs in our crafts; all of these things show who we are. One of our greatest things that has defined us and brought us all together was the Big House. In the Big House as you entered the east door you were greeted by the Mesingw. The Big House was closed and never to return in the 1940s. In the closing of the Big House the Mesingw was removed from our lives. The original Mesingw was sold or taken and put into museums for public display but not to be used by our people as it was in the past. It is displayed in our Tribal Seal, our crafts, in pictures, and in other items in our Tribe.

We may never have the Big House again but we can have a piece of our history and a representation of our Big

House. The Mesingw is the closest thing that we can get to the Big House to remind us of our customs and traditions. With that being said a new Mesingw has been erected at the entrance to the tribal complex. The Mesingw will now be out to greet everyone arriving at the complex like it was in the Big House. So as you enter the complex and see the Mesingw remember the history that it carries and that you're now entering Lenape Lakeit. ■



What is "Being Lenape"?

Ka ku waise (Raincrow)- Steven Donnell

In my traditional Classes I ask the question, what does it mean to be Lenape? I got the usual answers, to honor our ancestors, to respect our traditions, and so forth.

The neighboring tribes in the homeland referred to us as the grandfathers. Why? Why would we be known by such a honored referral? To be a grandfather is to be known for knowledge, history of the past, wisdom of how things are done, and the life teachings that he has learned along the way in his life. We were known as wise people for our honor, our respect for all living things, and most importantly the ability to discuss and come to an acceptable resolution.

We honor our family, our tribe. We respect each other. Our women were treated as equals and were as much a part of our governing as the men. In our clans we discussed the issues that came before the people in a respectful manner that is agreeable to all and for the benefit of the tribe as a whole. We all worked together to make our people-tribe stronger as a whole. So the answer to the question what does it mean to be Lenape? It is all of these things it is a WAY OF LIFE.

The respect for all things, to honor and respect each other, to treat all as equals, to work together for the betterment of all. To help one another in times of need. These values were taught to our children and embedded in them from their birth. The next time you are asked what tribe you are and you say Lenape think about what that really means!! Think about how you are conducting yourself in everyday life and how that reflects on yourself your family and our tribe.

I'll close with an old Lenape quote I have struggled with my whole life to be a better Lenape! Matach awen kshakenima hokaya!! Don't brag on yourself!

Wanishi weli nipain ■

An Update From the Lenape Vets Center

Ka ku waise (Raincrow)- Steven Donnell

With the changing in the administration there has been several changes in the Pact Act. The original preexisting conditions have grown, and new secondary conditions have now been introduced. Veterans with VA ratings should visit their local VSO officer to recheck their disability to see if there are any connection to new secondary conditions.

Any Veteran in the 25 Northeastern Oklahoma counties can now get free rides to their Dr. Appointments. Discounted rides can be made for non-Dr. appointments with the participating companies. Call (855)735-4826 or Info@veteransrideconnect.org Website: www.veteransrideconnect.org for more information.

Simplified Travel Claims submissions now available on new mobile app. The app will automatically identify when a veterans appointment is eligible for mileage reimbursement and displays a prompt on the home screen. Visit the mobile VA health and Benefits page on VA.gov/home/veterans-affairs or va.health and benefits on google play or apple app store
Welcome Home,

Have Suggestions for the Lenape Youth Fun Pages? Let Us Know!

Do you want to share ideas for the Lenape Youth Pages? Submit your ideas to din@delawaretribe.org for consideration. Thank you for helping to improve something for our children! ■

The Bartlesville Indian Women’s Club invites all area Native American women to join us for an evening of learning our culture, foods, tribal rites, continued growth, and awareness of Indians. All our money making projects go to our college scholarships. We have Indian Taco dinners and Style Shows to help raise these funds!! Meeting other Indian women is fun and a sense of sisterhood is developed!

Our meetings are 6 P.M. the second Thursday of each month at 601 S. Shawnee, Bartlesville, OK, at the Neighborhood Connection Building. ■



CARDINAL
BUILDING SOLUTIONS

MATT LITTLETON -Owner/Operator

Consulting
Owner’s Representative
Construction Management

matt@cardinalbuildingsolutions.com
cardinalbuildingsolutions.com
405.762.2844

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 December 15, 2025 for the January 2026 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.

Published October 2025. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the *Delaware Indian News*, unless otherwise noted.

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:


Dana Murrell, Tonya Anna, Emily Haney, Celeste Amadon, Hannah Wassenberg

Technical Editor: Joe Brown
(din@delawaretribe.org) ■

Introducing the Delaware Tribe of Indians Portal for Tribal Members’ Use

The portal provides you the opportunity to:

- Submit a request to update your information
**Please note name change/info updates will require you to upload supporting documentation & State ID/Driver License*
- Update your household members
- Update family relationships
- Add emergency contact information
- Add your income
- Print applications for programs that are available



To get started on your portal please click the following:
<https://delawarecommunityportal.powerappsportals.us>

Actions you ***cannot*** complete through the portal:

- Any application that requires certified documents and/or notarized paperwork (i.e. new enrollment or new tribal ID card)

****You will be required to use your tribal ID number (contact enrollment if you do not have this number)****

If you have any issues with login/process or questions, please email enrollment@delawaretribe.org ■

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

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

Tribal Website:
www.delawaretribe.org

General Email:
tribe@delawaretribe.org



Upcoming Events

Tribal Council Meeting Schedule

Fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. Meetings at Tribal Complex at 5100 Tuxedo Blvd in Forsythe Hall.

- October 22
- November 12
- December 17
- January 28

Committee Meeting Schedule

Elders Committee

Fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings held at 1:00 P.M. at Delaware Tribal Complex at 5100 Tuxedo Blvd.

- October 28
- December 16
- January 27

Cultural Preservation

First Tuesday of each month. Meetings held at 5:30 P.M. at 5110 Tuxedo Blvd. in the FCS conference room.

- October 7
- November 4
- December 2
- January 6

Veterans Committee

Fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:00 P.M.

- October 28
- November 18
- January 27

Housing Committee

All meetings held from 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. at either the Chelsea Boys & Girls Club or Tribal Council Chambers at the Main Tribal Campus

At Chelsea Boys & Girls Club:

- November 20
- January 15

At Main Campus—Tribal Council Chambers:

- October 16
- December 18

Tribal Court Docket Dates

Except for April, they are all set for the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 A.M., and are subject to change due to conflicting schedules or weather.

- October 21
- November 18
- December 16
- January 20

Others

War Mothers

Fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:00 P.M. in FCS Conference Room.

- October 28
- November 18
- January 27

Prevention Support Services

Talking Circle Every Wednesday except Tribal Council meeting night (4th Wed.) at Forsythe Hall from 6 P.M.–8 P.M. ■

Delaware Tribe of Indians Housing Committee 2025 Monthly Meeting Schedule 6:00 pm—8:00 pm	
Chelsea Boys & Girls Club	Main Campus-TC Chambers
January 16	February 20
March 20	April 17
May 15	June 19 June 12
July 17	August 21
September 18	October 16
November 20	December 18
Please come share your concerns, ideas, and meet the committee. Committee Members Farrell Burks, 918-440-6967, fburks@delawaretribe.org Mickey Canavan, 918-886-3132, mcanavan@delawaretribe.org Sherri Sam-Chouteau, 918-766-3695, sschouteau@delawaretribe.org Martina Thomas, 918-883-0004, mthomas@delawaretribe.org John Tucker, 918-805-1024, jlt.bville@gmail.com <small>Updated 3.17.25</small>	

2025 Delaware Tribe Holidays

January	1	New Year’s Day (Wednesday)
January	20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February	17	Presidents’ Day
April	18	Good Friday
May	26	Memorial Day
June	19	Juneteenth (Thursday)
July	4	Independence Day (Friday)
September	1	Labor Day
October	13	Indigenous Peoples Day
November	11	Veterans Day (Tuesday)
November	27-28	Thanksgiving (Thursday-Friday)
December	24-26	Christmas (Wednesday-Friday) ■



SERVICES:

- Sexual Assault advocacy
- Domestic Violence advocacy
- Protective orders
- Safety planning
- Domestic violence education
- Referral services
- Court preparation support
- Temporary housing assistance
- Child welfare
- Child support services

LOCATIONS:

601 High St
Caney, KS
67333
Phone:
620-879-2189

24 HOUR CRISIS LINE:
918-331-7349

5K FUN RUN/WALK
November 22, 2025
Gobble

TIL YOU

FEE REGISTRATION:
5K-\$30
FUN RUN/WALK-\$20
INCLUDES T-SHIRT

Wobble *Pumpkin Spice AND EVERYTHING nice*

Start at:
Delaware Tribe of Indians Complex
5100 Tuxedo Blvd.
Bartlesville, Ok. 74006
Time: 5K@9:00am
Fun Run/Walk@9:15am

***Registration Online at** www.runsignup.com/gobbletilyouwobble **For more information call:** 918-337-6586 or email cblackmon@delawaretribe.org

DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

Delaware Artisans Making Tribal Clothes

We have two Delaware tribal members who are available to provide Delaware regalia for our members. If interested, please reach out to either of them for pricing.

Erica Magee: (918) 902-7750 erica.magee33@gmail.com
You may also private message her on Facebook.

Yolanda Frenchman yfrenchman@gmail.com
You may also private message her on Facebook.

Photos of their work can be found on our Facebook page ■

Final Decision Regarding Tribal Councilmember Bonnie Jo Griffith

I. Introduction

During the regular meeting of the Tribal Council (the “Council”) held on February 26, 2025, the Council addressed allegations raised as part of a complaint brought by certain Tribal members against Council Member Bonnie Jo Griffith under Section 701 of the Tribal Council Code of Ethics (the “Code”). At that time, the Council found sufficient cause for the matter to proceed to an investigation as required under Section 703(A) of the Code. As explained herein, an administrative hearing was held, and this is the final decision of the Tribal Council as a result of its investigation and the hearing.

II. Authority

The process and procedure for hearing and deciding complaints brought under the Code against a Council Member are governed by Article VII of the Code. Under Section 705(B) of the Code, “the Elected Tribal Council Member in question shall have the opportunity and right to a hearing on his or her own behalf before the Tribal Council. There shall be a full and complete discussion of all aspects of the complaint against the Elected Tribal Council Member prior to a final decision. The individual in question shall have the right to bring a spokesperson or advocate to speak on his or her behalf, witnesses, documents and/or any other relevant evidence to support his or her position.”

Under Section 705(C) of the Code, “the hearing shall be informal, without formal rules of evidence, held in closed session, and recorded by the Secretary or a designee of the Council.”

Under Section 705(D) of the Code, “the Tribal Council shall receive and consider all of the ev-

idence presented at the hearing and shall issue a written decision regarding the matter in question. A decision shall be mailed to the Elected Tribal Council Member by certified mail, within twenty (20) calendar days after the hearing date.”

III. Factual Background of the Complaint

1. On Wednesday, January 22, 2025, an Executive Session was called during a regular Tribal Council meeting by Treasurer Brown due to complaints brought by certain Tribal members from the floor. At that time the following Tribal members spoke to Tribal Council about Council Member Griffith (Council Member Kay Anderson was not in attendance due to illness): Tristen Tucker, Johnny Tucker, Shakota Roberts, and Sheena Burnett.

The complaints raised by the Tribal members involved allegations that Council Member Griffith threatened the life of another Tribal member—the son of Council Member Kay Anderson.

After hearing from the above attendees, Council Member Griffith was asked to leave the chambers so the Tribal Council could discuss the complaints and how to handle this situation. The Council agreed to have Council Member Griffith temporarily banned from the tribal campus until Council completed their investigation in this matter.

2. On January 23, 2025, Chief KillsCrow sent to Council Member Griffith written notice under Section 702 of the Code identifying the allegation of misconduct and violations of the Tribal Constitution, the Code of Ethics, and the Code of Conduct based upon the information provided in Executive Session during the January 22, 2025, Council meeting.

3. On January 24, 2025, a poll

vote was taken by Council members to approve the banishment of Council Member Griffith from the tribal complex until further notice for alleged violations of the Code of Conduct (passed by the Tribal Council April 16, 2022), which state that Unacceptable Behaviors Include: Intimidation; Harassing; Abusive, discriminatory, derogatory, or demeaning speech or actions by any participant.

4. On January 24, 2025, Allan Barnes, Acting Executive Director of Tribal Operations, submitted a letter to Council Member Griffith informing her of the Council’s decision to ban her from the tribal complex for the time being.

5. Statements were turned in by Johnny Tucker, Shakota Roberts and Council Member Anderson. During the February 26, 2025, Tribal Council meeting Council Member Griffith read a text message that she claims she sent to Council Member Anderson. Council Member Anderson denied reading any texts from Council Member Griffith.

6. On February 24, 2025, Council Member Griffith submitted a written response stating her affirmative defenses and answers to the complaint allegations, as allowed under Section 704 of the Code.

7. During the February 26, 2025, Tribal Council meeting Council Member Lindsey Harris called for Executive Session. The written statements were considered from the Tribal members who presented their complaint at the January 22, 2025, Council meeting. The Council also considered a handwritten statement from Council Member Anderson. After all Council members read the statements, they had the opportunity to address Council Member Griffith. After discussion, the Council determined that sufficient cause existed to proceed

with an investigation under Section 703(A) of the Code.

8. Pursuant to Section 705 of the Code, the Council held an administrative hearing on March 20, 2025, to hear from witnesses and to consider all evidence regarding the merits of the complaint. Those in attendance at the hearing were: Chief Brad KillsCrow, Assistant Chief Tonya Anna, Council Member Lindsey Harris, Council Member Rusty Creed Brown, Council Member Shaunda Brooks (via Zoom), Council Member Bonnie Jo Griffith, Council Member Kay Anderson, Executive Assistant Dana Murrell, Tribal Attorney O. Joseph Williams, and Nate Young, advocate for Bonnie Jo Griffith.

9. The Council heard from Council Member Anderson regarding the threats made to her son by Council Member Griffith. Specifically, Council Member Anderson said on January 21, 2025, upon coming back from a cardiology appointment, she received a call from Council Member Griffith regarding alleged threats Council Member Anderson’s son had made earlier. Council Member Anderson said that Council Member Griffith told her, “[Your son] said he was going to come down here and shoot—or kill anybody. And if he hurts — if he kills my granddaughter . . . I’ll kill his ass. I’ll shoot his ass.” Transcript, Pg. 8.

Council Member Anderson said, “we’ve been trying to help Tommy because he’s had a lot of mental problems.” Council Member Griffith responded, “Well, that’s just beside the point . . . I’m just going to shoot his ass and kill his ass.” Transcript, Pg. 8.

Council Member Griffith does not deny making these threats, and, during the March 20 hearing, she admitted she was wrong and asked for forgiveness by saying, “And I —I was wrong. I was to-

tally wrong, Kay. And I hate it that I did it to you. Okay? I hate it. And I can’t undo it. All I can ask is for you to forgive me. Okay?” Transcript, Pg. 28-29.

Council Member Griffith admitted she sent a text to Council Member Anderson on January 24, 2025, which reads in part, “Kay, I cannot apologize enough for my actions on Tuesday. I absolutely did not mean any harm to you. I had a knee jerk reaction and unfortunately you paid with your health for it.” The text message was introduced as documentary evidence under Tab 11 of the binder of documents admitted into the hearing record.

The binder of documents also contained written statements from other witnesses, correspondence between the Council and Council Member Griffith, and the investigation results. The complete binder was admitted into the hearing record without objection.

IV. Conclusion

Based on all the foregoing and the evidence introduced and testimony heard at the March 20, 2025, hearing, the Council concludes that Council Member Griffith is in violation of the Constitution, the Code of Ethics, and the Code of Conduct as alleged in the complaint; specifically, her action of threatening the life of another Tribal member, the son of Council Member Anderson, violates the following:

1. Article V, Section A of the Constitution: Council Member Griffith is supposed to represent the Delaware Tribe and act in all matters that concern the general welfare of the tribe. Her actions of threatening the life of another Tribal member and causing severe distress to that Tribal member’s mother—another Council

Continued on page (11)

Member—is not consistent with that constitutional requirement.

2.Code of Conduct: Council Member Griffith’s actions violate the Code of Conduct provisions as “Unacceptable Behavior” and do not meet the Code of Conduct’s requirement of “Expected Behavior.”

3.Code of Ethics: Council Member Griffith’s actions violate the Code of Ethics under Section 204 (Competence) and Sections 301(4) & 301(5) in that her actions resulted in her “losing or compromising complete independence or impartiality of actions” and that she made a “government or management decision outside official channels.”

Based on the foregoing the Tribal Council finds the violations

by Council Member Griffith require sanctions to be as follows: loss of compensation as a Council Member for the remainder of her term, loss of her right as a Council Member to sponsor or introduce any legislation at any Council meeting for the remainder of her term, loss of any travel expenses for the remainder of her term, loss of use of discretionary funds for the remainder of her term, and a public reprimand that would involve public notice, including publication in the Tribal newspaper, of this Final Decision. The Council will vote on these sanctions to be carried out, in whole or in part, by Tribal Council Resolution at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

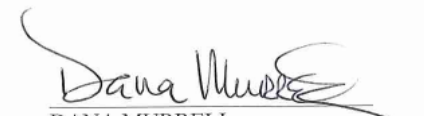
Dated this 8th day of April 2025


Brad KillsCrow, Chief
For the Tribal Council

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the 9th day of April 2025, I sent via email and certified mailing the foregoing Tribal Council Final Decision to the following:

BONNIE JO GRIFFITH
Tribal Council Member
208 North Barbara Avenue
Bartlesville, OK 74006


DANA MURRELL
Executive Assistant to the Chief

An Enthusiastic Welcome for Chief KillsCrow, Jeremy Johnson and Nicky Kay Michael

Linda Perlman Fields
Milford, Pa, September 12th

A special visit by Lenape tribal members to the Col-umns Museum of the Milford Historical Society in Pennsylvania was arranged with great enthusiasm by curator Lori Strelecki and Historical Society President Liz Steen. They, plus members of the board of Pike Artworks were pleased to have Chief Brad KillsCrow, Cultural Education Director Jeremy Johnson, and author Nicky Kay Michael, former Director of Indigenous Studies at Bacone College, visit the museum’s permanent Lenape exhibit.

Said Chief Killscrow, “We lived here 12-thousand plus years ago and this place holds meaning not only to me but for my entire tribe... and it’s good to see this education for non-natives to understand why this is so important to the Lenape.” Johnson said the exhibit was well done, “To show we’re not frozen in time...we’re not extinct. It’s a good representation. I’m glad it’s here.”

The three, plus Camilla Townsend, who co-authored “On the Turtle’s Back” with Michael, kicked off Pike Art-works’ Readers and Writers Festival with a panel discus-sion on Lenape culture and storytelling. The event at the Milford Theater began with a special blessing delivered by Chief KillsCrow. He spoke spontaneously from his heart, thanking the Creator and asking for goodwill and health for all, including members of the audience and their families, no matter their political or religious affiliation.



With Johnson moderating, the four then discussed “On the Turtle’s Back” and the storytelling traditions of the Lenape. The discussion was wide ranging, covering the tribe’s matriarchy, spirituality, the Lenape language, and so much more. Co-author Townsend said she was surprised to find humor in many of the stories, noting people “in the East often think Indians are so stoic.” She added, “The way in which the adults were telling the stories were designed to reach an audience.”

Michael said for her, the stories have different meanings depending on when you read them. “In your twenties, it’s one thing and in your forties, it’s different and now as a

grandmother, it strikes me differently so they’re never-ending in what they have to tell us.”

Johnson spoke about the elders and how they told stories that are still remembered. “These stories highlight who we are, the humanity... we’re still passing them down, still learning.”

The story, “The Ballplayer” was read to the audience and a discussion followed about how the Lenape protect their women, and how it is often the family member least considered to rise to the status of hero who often does, with the help of animal spirits and with humility.

After the discussion on stage, audience members lined up to buy the book and meet the panelists. Proceeds will go to the Delaware Tribe of Indians in Bartlesville, OK ■






Delaware Indian News Media Kit

Full Page-----	11.5 x 11.5	= \$300
Half page-----	11.5 x 5.75	= \$150
Quarterpage-----	5.75 x 5.75	= \$75
Eighthpage-----	5.75 x 2.875	= \$40
Business card-----	2.0 x 3.5	= \$35


Ads can be vertical or horizontal Color add \$15

To order, please contact
The administrative assistant to Chief KillsCrow at
din@delawaretribe.org or at 918-337-6590.




EVERY WEDNESDAY

Forsythe Hall
6-8pm
5100 Tuxedo Blvd.
Bartlesville, Ok. 74006
Contact Sherri Sam-Chouteau
918-766-3695 or
sschouteau@delawaretribe.org



Coffee to be served starting at 5:30 pm




LENAPE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Want to inquire about our waitlist?


Step 1. Scan QR code
Step 2. Submit information

Want more information?

Enrollment Coordinator
Lynsey Stumpff
918.214.7644
lstumpff@delawaretribe.org



SCAN HERE



DEDICATED TO MY CALIFORNIA DELAWARE FAMILY

A BIG PERSONAL SHOUT-OUT TO MY WONDERFUL BLENDED FAMILY IN CALIFORNIA, COMPOSED OF MY FANTASTIC WIFE ROXIE ROSE COFER, CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN – ALL OF WHOM ARE PROUD DESCENDENTS OF CHIEFS SOLOMON AND CHARLES JOURNEYCAKE.

What follows has been derived from family letters, diaries and memorabilia. In 1833 Charles and his mother Sally (who allegedly was a white captive who married Solomon) were the only Christians in the Delaware tribe. In 1855 Journeycake (we assume Solomon) became the principle Chief of the Delaware. After the Delawares were once again removed from their homes and moved to Oklahoma – they were arbitrarily placed into the Cherokee Nation. At that time Journeycake relinquished his title as Chief of the Delaware.

Thereafter, acting as a Delaware counselor Journeycake represented the tribe in Washington D.C. on twenty-four separate occasions. In 1872, at the age of 55, Charles Journeycake was ordained as a minister, and founded the Delaware Baptist Church with seven of the eleven founding members being close family members.

As a non-Delaware – of Irish and German descent – I am beyond proud of the rich and wonderful indigenous history that my wife, children and grandchildren share. We all look forward to reading the Delaware News, but my wife can confirm that I always pounce on it as soon as it arrives, and read it cover to cover.

My family consists of the family matriarch, my wife Roxie Rose Cofer, son Robert, and his children Joe, Marissa, Stephanie, and Jason; plus, daughter Angie, and her children Amber and Karlle.

Love you all,
Dean Cofer – husband, dad and grandpa



Lenape Wellness & Fitness Center

Kickstart your day, stay active, and have fun in a supportive environment!!




Monday-Friday
8am-8pm
Saturday
9am-1pm



For more information contact:
Cody Blackmon
Wellness Director/Red Cross Instructor
918-337-6586
cblackmon@gmail.com



Lenape Early Learning Center



LENAPE RESERVE
SUPPLY & GIFT
Est. 2022

Delaware Tribe of Indians

BUY NATIVE, SUPPORT LOCAL

VISIT WWW.LENAPERESERVE.COM TO SHOP ONLINE!

Beadwork, Jewelry, Teton Trade Cloth by Lenape, Apparel, Home Goods, Beauty, Regalia, and Indian Supply

Contact us at lenapereserve@delawaretribe.org



A Reminder About Cybersecurity

Jeremy Tolbert

Why Phishing Attacks Spike In The Summer

You may be getting back from vacation, but cybercriminals never take a day off. In fact, data shown in studies from vendors ProofPoint and Check Point indicate that phishing attempts actually spike in the summer months. Here's how to stay aware and stay protected.

Why The Increased Risk?

Attackers use your summer travel bug to their advantage by impersonating hotel and Airbnb websites, says Check Point Research. They've uncovered a sharp increase in cyberthreats related to the travel industry—specifically, a 55% increase in the

creation of new website domains related to vacations in May 2025, compared to the same period last year. Of over 39,000 domains registered, one in every 21 was flagged as either malicious or suspicious.

August/September is also back-to-school time, which means an uptick in phishing attempts imitating legitimate university e-mails, targeting both students and staff. While these threats might not affect your industry directly, there's always a chance that employees pursuing their master's degree or planning a vacation will check their personal e-mail on their work computer—and it takes only one wrong click for cyberattackers to have access to all of your business's data.

What To Do About It

While AI is making cybersecurity stronger and workflows smoother, it's also making phishing attacks more convincing. That's why it's important to train yourself and your team on what to look for, to avoid clicking on a malicious link.

Safety Tips to Prevent Attacks:

Keep an eye out for shady e-mails. Don't only check for misspellings and poorly formatted sentences in the body of e-mails; AI can write e-mails for attackers just like it can for you. Also examine the e-mail address of the sender and the text of the link itself, if visible, to make sure everything looks legitimate.

Double-check URLs. Misspellings in the link text or unusual domain endings, like .today or .info, can be an indicator of an attack. Domain endings like these are often used in scam sites.

Visit websites directly. It's always better to search for the website yourself, rather than clicking on links in any messages or e-mails.

Enable Multifactor Authentication (MFA). Setting up MFA ensures that even if a breach does occur within your company, your login credentials will remain protected—and so will any data secured behind them.

Be careful with public WiFi. If you need to use public WiFi, use a VPN for additional protection when accessing secure information, like booking portals or bank accounts.

Don't access personal e-mail on company devices. Accessing personal e-mail, messaging or so-

cial media accounts on business devices increases your risk. Keep personal accounts on your personal devices, and work-related accounts on the work devices.

Ask an IT professional about endpoint security. Endpoint detection and response (EDR) software can monitor your desktops and mobile devices, detect and block phishing attempts and malicious downloads, and alert immediately in the event of a breach, drastically limiting your data's exposure.

Phishing attempts become more sophisticated every day, and AI is only speeding that process along. Because of this, it's essential to keep your team well-informed of the risks; knowledge is the best defense against phishing attacks. Stay informed and stay safe! ■

Indigenous People's Day Philly 2025

Tonya Anna

In 2023, I was asked to speak at IPD Philly with members from the other federally recognized Delaware tribes. This was the first year all five tribes would meet and present together in hopes of bringing awareness of the state-recognized or fake tribes located on or near our homelands. At the time, I was unclear of the event, but IPD Philly's mission statement explains it all very well.

“Our mission is to cultivate an active Native American/Indigenous presence in the city of Philadelphia through cultural, educational and community-building initiatives that uplift our Native traditions, creative economies, and histories.”

The one-day event was filled with entertainment from various indigenous people from across the US and other countries. To see the regalia and dance from all over was very educational and entertaining. I actually met two tribal members that day, which was exciting since I didn't actually expect to meet anyone from our own tribe. To find out how involved one of them is with IPD Philly really made me take a look at what this organization is doing for awareness and how they want to assist the Delaware tribes and expose the fake tribes.

Founded by three Indigenous women, this year will be the 9th pan-indigenous celebration that combines traditional and contemporary Indigenous art, music, dance, storytelling, history, and



food to increase awareness of the First Peoples of the Americas in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This year, the event will be held on Monday, October 13, 2025, from 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM at Shackamaxon (Penn Treaty) Park 1301 N. Beach Street, Philadelphia PA 19125

Shackamaxon, also known as Penn Treaty Park, is in our ances-

tral territory. The 8th generation tree stands at the park, a descendant of the historic Treaty Elm, which is where our relatives from across Lenapehoking used to meet and sit for council. This is where our legendary leader Tamanend (aka Tammany) signed the 1682 Treaty of Shackamaxon with Englishman, William Penn. So to walk the park knowing this is where our ancestors once lived really gave me a sense of purpose and pride. So if you ever get a chance to go to Philadelphia, you must stop by the park and take the time to reflect. You will be glad that you did!

You can view previous events at <https://ipdphilly.org/campaign/#annual-ipd-philly> if you would like to watch the program from each year's celebration. If you are interested in becoming part of the program, want to bring

awareness to the fake Delaware tribes, donate, sponsor, or would like to be a vendor at future events, please contact Tonya Anna at tanna@delawaretribe.org or call (918) 914-2081 for more information. ■



**PREMED
SCHOLARSHIP**

Myles is a junior at Cal State San Marcos pursuing his kinesiology degree

**CONGRATULATIONS
MYLES FRANCO**

He believes medicine is a great place to make positive impacts on people’s lives and the opportunity to work in the field is a source of honor and pride for him.

While enrolled in his high school’s medical assistant program and dedicating himself to the highest practices, he was granted the sole internship at Sillect Surgery Center where under professional tutelage, observed and assisted the Chief medical surgeons as they performed cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. He gained firsthand experience in the operating room and the day-to-day function of the center. The insight was invaluable and solidified his decision to pursue a career in medicine.

His family are very proud of his accomplishments. He hopes the IHS scholarship will afford him the opportunity to pursue medicine so he can serve indigenous communities across Indian country and underserved communities elsewhere.

He’d like to personally thank the Delaware Tribe for supporting him with the trust fund scholarship to see him through his studies. Wanishi Te’-

We are proud to announce Delaware Tribal Member, Myles Franco, is a 2025 IHS scholarship recipient



As a senior in high school, Myles was invited to attend the National Student Leaders Conference at University of California Berkeley for Medicine and Health Care. It was a weeklong intensive and he participated in simulated patient diagnostic, clinical experience and attended speaker panels by medical professionals.



From the Enrollment Department

Skyler Brott, Enrollment Clerk

The Enrollment Department would like to ensure that our tribal members know how to access the programs and applications that the Delaware Tribe of Indians has to offer.

If you have been to the campus, you may have noticed multiple flyers posted as well as our digitized welcome sign. We also ask our tribal members to follow our Facebook page for current events and programs available.

In this article we would like to inform our tribal members of the benefits that may be found on the Delaware Tribe of Indians website. On the website you can access all the applications for programs that are available, as well as forms to update your information, apply for a replacement card, and find the enrollment application.

We wanted to breakdown how you can find these forms and applications in the hope that it will help our tribal members navigate the website.

Firstly, the website is **delawaretribe.org**. From here you will see the Services/Programs tabs.

This will drop down to a menu that will show Enrollment, Elder Services, Community Services, and Education Services.

Under the Enrollment tab is where you will find the forms to update your information, apply for a replacement card, and find out enrollment packet.

Under the Programs/Services tab you will also find ARPA Programs. Here you can find the applications for the programs that are available at this time. At this moment we have a few programs available for our tribal members. These programs include Potable Water, Scholarship, and Counseling.

If at any time you need help finding these applications or filling out the applications, we ask you to call or email the ladies below.

Hayden Ingram: Receptionist
Email: **hingram@delawaretribe.org**
Phone: (918) 337-6590

Skyler Brott: Enrollment Clerk
Email: **sbrott@delawaretribe.org**
Phone: (918) 337-6570

Emily Haney: Enrollment Director
Email: **ehaney@delawaretribe.org**
Phone: (918) 337-6583 ■

Obituaries

Craig “Bubba” Ketchum



March 21, 1970 –
July 12, 2025

Craig “Bubba” Ketchum age 55, passed away July 12, 2025, in Sanderson, Texas.

He was born March 21, 1970, to Ron and Joy Ketchum in Bartlesville Oklahoma. In Craig’s younger years he attended Bartlesville and Copan Schools. Afterwards he started his EMS and Firefighter education. This is what started his love for his career helping others. Craig was known by many in the Bartlesville area as he was a Firefighter at the Bartlesville Fire Department and very involved with his families’ activities. He dedicated his life to helping others. During his love of his career, he never forgot about his family. After his career with Bartlesville Fire Department he retired to Sanderson, Texas.

Craig enjoyed working with his hands and was always available to his family and friends with whatever they needed help with building, repairing or just talking.

He was dedicated to his family and friends and enjoyed spending time with them.

His memory will live on with his brother Dan Ketchum (Jeanie), his sisters Jennifer Maloney, Darcey Parrott and Kelly Ketchum as well as his uncle George (Barbara), his aunt Anita Cooper and many nephews,

nieces, grand nephews, grand nieces and cousins.

He is now reunited with his father Ron and mother Joy, his grandparents, aunts, cousins and friends.

Family will invite friends for a graveside service at a later date. In lieu of flowers please consider donating a memorial contribution to the Delaware Indian Tribe Attn: Dana Murrell 5100 Tuxedo Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006. Please make checks payable to: Lenape Native American Foundation and write General Donation on the memo line. ■



William “Bill” H. Schwenker



June 19, 1929 –
April 4, 2023

Bill Schwenker was a well-tenured educator in Oklahoma. He taught in the Newkirk, Ponca City, and Bartlesville schools, finishing his teaching career at College High School and Madison Junior High School.

He and his twin sister Betty were born on June 19, 1929, one of the first sets of twins born in the Bartlesville Memorial Hospital. Bill received his education in the Bartlesville and Barnsdall, Oklahoma publics schools, and attended Connors State College on a football scholarship. He married his high school sweetheart, Mary Campbell, and they attended Col-

lege together. His college education was interrupted by the Korean War, where he served as a ship’s electrician in the Pacific Ocean, and as a dry dock electrician in Hawaii. He finished his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Industrial Arts Education from Oklahoma State University.

After retiring from teaching, and the passing of his beloved wife, Bill moved to Friendswood, Texas. He enjoyed many years playing with great grandkids and helping to take care of the farm animals.

He passed away on April 4, 2023, in Friendswood, Texas. Bill is preceded in death by his wife Mary, his parents, and several siblings. He is survived by his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

A memorial service was held in June 2023 in Bartlesville.■

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 enrollment@delawaretribe.org. The Community Services Committee has a burial assistance program if you need help. ■

Delaware Pow Wow Committee

Indian Taco & Christmas Market



Taco Sale-
11-6
Solo Taco \$12
Taco Combo \$15
Christmas Market -
9 am to 5 pm
Stomp Dances to begin
at 7pm
\$25 for Vendor Space

December 6 2025



Cherokee Culture Center
700 E Durham St
Dewey OK

Any Questions?
Contact Collin Davis
(918)286-9331

Interested in vendor
spot? Contact Elaine
Clinton (918)914-9347



Don't Forget Who We Are

Todd Sirovatka

If our Ancestors came back and asked us who we are
Would we be too far gone to recognize them thru the stars
And the stripes and the flag livin' our lives this way
If our Ancestors came back would we fight them today
We caught a glimpse of the world before corrupted hate
That's still functionin' on self-destruction, only some can relate
It's buried deep in my mind someday our people will rise
Above the mist and see what's real, stop believin' the lies
We see it in their eyes trapped in webs of deceit
I'll take sides wit' the rebels avoid those who pledge allegiance to these
Led to believe that we're hopeless and never free
I'd rather die standin' fightin' than live on my knees
Our people lonely roamin' only to cherish a dream
In America where they apparently bury beliefs
Underneath lies and violence they can barely be reached
Confused by rules too scared or embarrassed to speak
They're very discreet, overview we lyin' on lies
They'll take our death and defiance as misguided posturing or pride
So where our people at? Who stand in the front lines
Shieldin' our family from attack for the love of our tribes
If our ancestors came back... Would we fight??
Tell me, if we seen them would freedom be in our hearts
Or might we try to enslave them and keep them apart
Seein' the way we live would it make an impression
Or would we put them on rezzes inside our rezzes, in the way of our progression
Would we act as oppressors not able to expose or share our gifts
Some would embrace our Ancestors some would choose to forget
Imagine if we decided to walk wit them, the ultimate tribe

Once more embodying the beings we supposed to became in time
If they spoke native tongues would we even understand
Or would we kill the Indian in them then try to save the man
Would we accept their embrace wit' love or open arms
Or would we do the harm to not be reminded of who we are
Maybe they already here and we ignore their speech
Too busy being Americans, lost in their beliefs
If our Ancestors came back to see us make it this far
I fear their spirits would be broken, our stance breakin' their hearts
If our Ancestors came back...
We are the livin' prayers of our people, don't forget who we are
They say we less but we equal, don't forget who we are
Ancestors died for our presence, don't forget who we are
We are their spiritual essence, don't forget who you are
I will fight til I expel my last breath
Against United snakes and terrorists I'm rebellin' against
I'll die today to see my great grandchild smile
Knowin' my work before the dirt was worthwhile
Steadfast, unmovable in the movement the struggle persist
Without the spirit of people it's nothin' to exist
Never forget the Ancestors died wit' us in mind
Their spirits live in us it's time for us to rise
Or we'll we continue to crawl instead of walk, slittin' our own throats
Continue to be deaf, dumb, and blind not readin', ignoring what they wrote
Will we be our Ancestors wildest dreams
Or will we be our people worst enemy
If our Ancestors came back seen us livin' this way
I think they would be speechless nothin' to say
... If our Ancestors came back ■

Young Delaware Wins Big at Jamboree

Hannah Wassenberg

STONEWALL, TX – The weekend of June 20 and 21 the dust flew and the crowd roared on Friday night at the Stonewall Peach Jamboree as 7-year-old Delaware Tribal Member Charlie Ketchum Sears of Fredericksburg, Texas, clung tight and rode his way to first place in the fan-favorite Muttin' Bustin' event.

Competing against other pint-sized cowboys and cow-girls under 55 pounds, Charlie impressed the judges and crowd alike with his grit, balance, and style atop a bucking sheep. His standout performance on Friday night earned him a coveted spot in the Saturday night finals, where he once again delivered a championship-worthy ride.

Charlie's efforts didn't go unnoticed—he proudly took home two pairs of cowboy boots and a shiny belt buckle as prizes for his victory. The young cowboy's smile was just as big as the crowd that cheered him on.

His proud parents, Clay and Carena Sears, were beaming from the sidelines as their son strutted off the arena with style, his belt buckle glinting under the rodeo lights.

The Muttin' Bustin' event remains a staple of the Stonewall Peach Jamboree, giving kids a chance to show off their cowboy courage while keeping the crowd entertained. And this year, it was clear—Charlie Ketchum Sears was the star of the show. ■



Tips for Preparing for Fall and Winter

Tristen Tucker

As summer fades and the cooler months approach, it's the perfect time to start preparing for the changing seasons. Fall and winter bring beautiful scenery, cozy moments, and also their share of challenges—like dropping temperatures, unpredictable weather, and increased energy costs. Getting ahead with your preparations can save you time, money, and stress later.

Here's a comprehensive guide on how to prepare for both fall and winter weather so you're ready no matter what the season throws at you.

Home Preparation

Fall Tasks:

Clean Gutters & Downspouts: Falling leaves can clog drainage and lead to water damage.

Inspect Roof: Check for missing or damaged shingles before snow or ice accumulates.

Service HVAC System: Early fall is the best time to inspect and tune up your furnace or heating system.

Test Smoke & CO Detectors: With heaters and fireplaces running more often, safety checks are critical.

Winter Tasks:

Seal Windows & Doors: Use caulk or weather stripping to block cold drafts.

Insulate Pipes: Especially in unheated areas like garages or basements to prevent freezing.

Check Attic Insulation: A well-insulated attic keeps warm air in and heating bills down.

Keep Ice Melt & Shovels Handy: Store them where you can easily access them before the first snow hits.

Vehicle Preparation

Fall Tasks:

Check Tires: Rotate if needed, and ensure there's adequate tread depth.

Inspect Wiper Blades: Autumn rain and falling leaves require clear visibility.

Top Off Fluids: Including coolant, oil, and windshield washer fluid.

Winter Tasks:

Switch to Winter Tires (if needed): Especially in snow-prone areas.

Check Battery Health: Cold weather can drain weak batteries quickly.

Create or Restock an Emergency Kit: Include blankets, flashlight, snacks, water, first aid, and jumper cables.

Outdoor and Yard Work

Fall Tasks:

Rake Leaves Regularly: To avoid killing grass and prevent slippery walkways.

Fertilize Lawn: Fall fertilization helps grass grow stronger roots before winter dormancy.

Trim Trees & Shrubs: Cut back overgrown branches that could break under snow or ice.

Winter Tasks:

Winterize Outdoor Faucets: Drain hoses and shut off exterior water lines.

Protect Outdoor Furniture: Store or cover patio furniture and grills.

Check Snow Removal Equipment: Make sure snow blowers are operational and you have ice melt on hand.

Interior Comfort & Energy Efficiency

Fall Tasks:

Reverse Ceiling Fans: Set them to rotate clockwise to push warm air down.

Clean or Replace Filters: Clean filters in your furnace, air purifiers, and humidifiers.

Install a Programmable Thermostat: Adjust temperatures to save energy when you're away.

Winter Tasks:

Add Thermal Curtains or Window Film: Helps block drafts and retain heat.

Check Humidity Levels: Use a humidifier to prevent dry air, which can lead to health issues and wood damage.

Prepare for Power Outages: Keep flashlights, candles, batteries, and a backup heat source on standby.

Preparing for fall and winter is more than just pulling out sweaters and boots—it's about protecting your home, staying safe on the roads, and ensuring comfort for you and your family. By tackling these tasks early, you'll be able to enjoy the best parts of the colder seasons—like warm drinks, cozy fires, and holiday cheer—without the stress. ■

An Update from the Delaware Tribe Food Pantry

Sonny Fixico, Director, Delaware Tribe Food Pantry

Hello from the Delaware Tribe Food Pantry! In collaboration with the Food Bank of NE Oklahoma we served many meals to children 0-18 during the Summer of 2025! This was a tough feat! One day, we had a line from the pantry door to the Eastern parking lot with some people inside already! This was not part of our normal food program, so we were allowed serve anyone and everyone!

Here in the fall, we are still updating households within our system! All you need to do is bring your Delaware Tribal ID with your roll number into the Food Pantry, and we will get your account updated! We must update these annually as per our agreement with the Food Bank of NE Oklahoma.

The Food Pantry can always use donations and volunteers. (Bagging up groceries, Handing out groceries, and stocking.) In August, we were able to get donated a couple of wooden dump bins from Homeland, they make our shopping room look way more aesthetic and cleaner. Recent donations have been \$100 from Billy of FL, \$200 from David Creed of TX, and the wooden bins from Tony Cochran. And as always, a big Wanishi to Angela, Bob, Ariella, David, Michael, and Kevin for volunteering!

Wanishi!, Mvto!, Wado!, Askwali! Thank you! ■



Some of our volunteers.
Special shout out to Bill (left),
always #1 on Sonny's list!

Lenape Language Report

Jim Rementer, Director, Lenape Language Project

Lenape Talking Dictionary— There are 125 new Lenape words and sentence sound files said by Lucy Blalock added to the dictionary recently.

Old Photo: The photo is of Charlton ‘Steve’ Wilson tying a water drum



Lenape Calendar for 2025: The downloadable Delaware calendar for 2025 is available on the tribal website.

<https://delawaretribe.org/wp-content/uploads/Delaware-Calendar-2025.pdf>
There is also a word-a-day posted each month.

Lenape Stories— There are many stories that can be found on our tribal website. At the present time we have 56 stories that had only been written in English. They can be found by going to the following address or using the following link:

<https://delawaretribe.org/blog/2013/06/25/lenape-stories-2/>

Example of an old story from 1920s:

ORIGIN OF THE OTTER CEREMONY

told to anthropologist M. R. Harrington

Many years ago, so runs the story, a little girl about ten years of age was given a young otter for a pet, and this she kept and cared for until it was well grown. About this time she began to feel that she should keep him no longer, for she had come to realize that he was pilsu meaning "pure" or "sacred," and, like all wild things, belonged to the Powers Above.

The old people told her what she must do, so she took her otter down to the creek, and, first tying a little bag of tobacco on his neck, said to him: "Now I shall set you free. I have raised you and cared for you until now you are full grown. Go, then, and follow the ways of your kind." The otter disappeared into the waters, and the little girl returned to her home, feeling that she had done well. But before a year had passed, a sickness came upon her, which the Indian doctors told her was caused by her pet otter, which wanted something to eat. The only way for the child to get well, they said, was for her to have a hog (in some accounts this is a bear) killed and cooked, and then to invite a number of men to eat it all, in the name of the otter.

It was done, and when the men finished eating the hog and the soup, they said that the girl would recover, and so she did. For this ceremony they took an otter-skin to represent the girl's pet. It was used every two years. When the owner died it was passed to the oldest survivor of the family which owned it, and kept in the belief that it would benefit the health of all of them. It was the only one of its kind in the tribe, and is called "Kunuxäs." ■

Historical Hemlines Fashion Show



As printed in *Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise*
Sunday, April 28, 1968 ■

Volunteers Needed!

Tonya Anna

We are always looking for volunteers to assist the tribe. If there is something specific, you would like to assist with just let us know. Otherwise, we have these to choose from and if they spark an interest or you have ideas you would like to pass along email tan-na@delawaretribe.org or call (918) 337-6531.

Lenapeowsi Foundation—This 501(c)3 organization has been around since 2007 and has gone by the wayside. We would like to see someone get this group back up and running. Its mission was to preserve, sustain, and perpetuate Lenape language, culture, and society. When it was actively operating, they could

have up to 30 school-aged children attend weekly. They would have potluck and cultural activities in Forsythe Hall where all children were welcome regardless of tribal affiliation.

Young Lenape Leaders—A motion was made in November 2021 to establish this group. They met a few times but could not get participation from our younger membership. This group may need an event to spark some interest for the younger members to get involved so any help would be greatly appreciated. ■

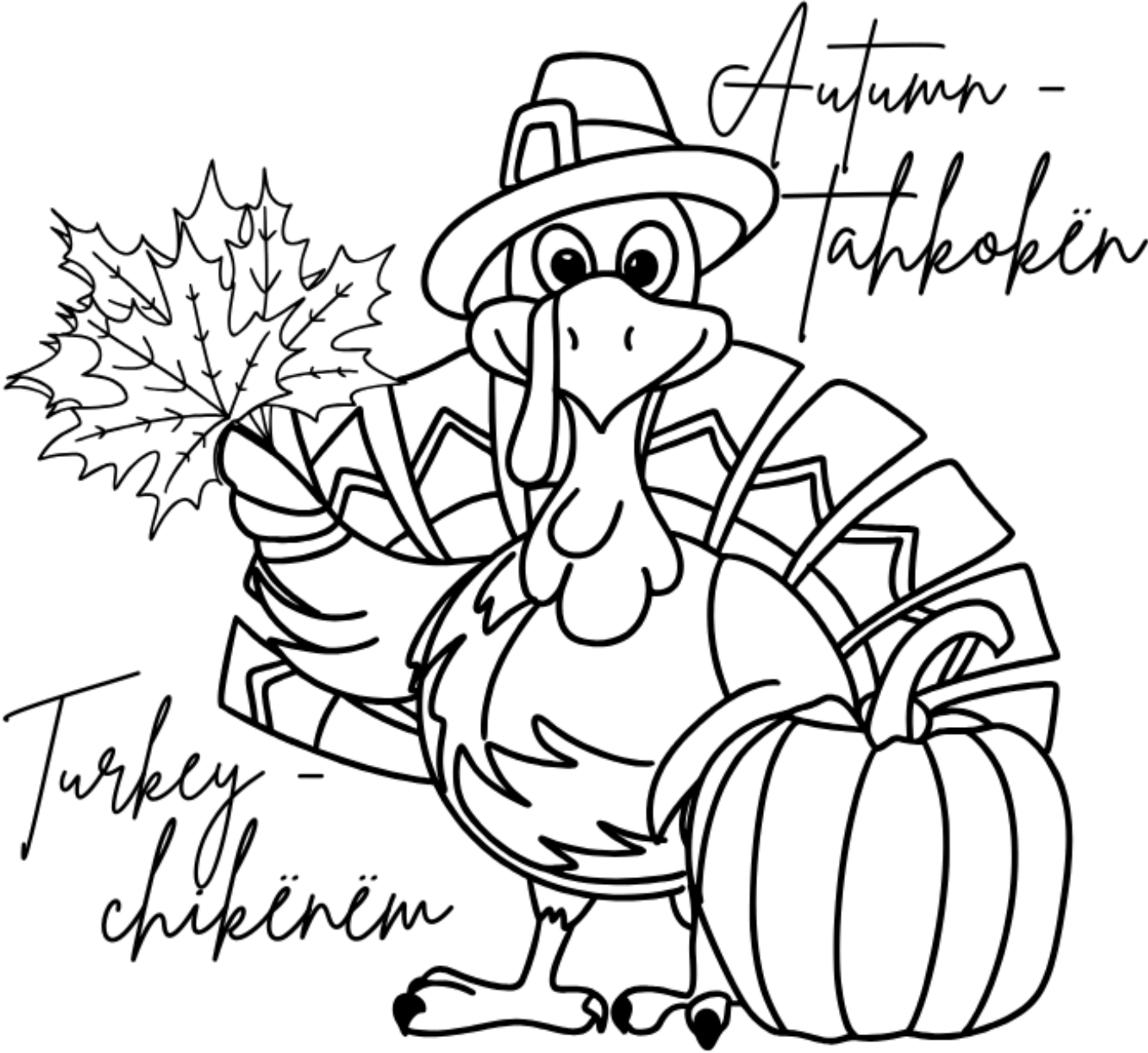
Lenape Youth Fun Pages

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

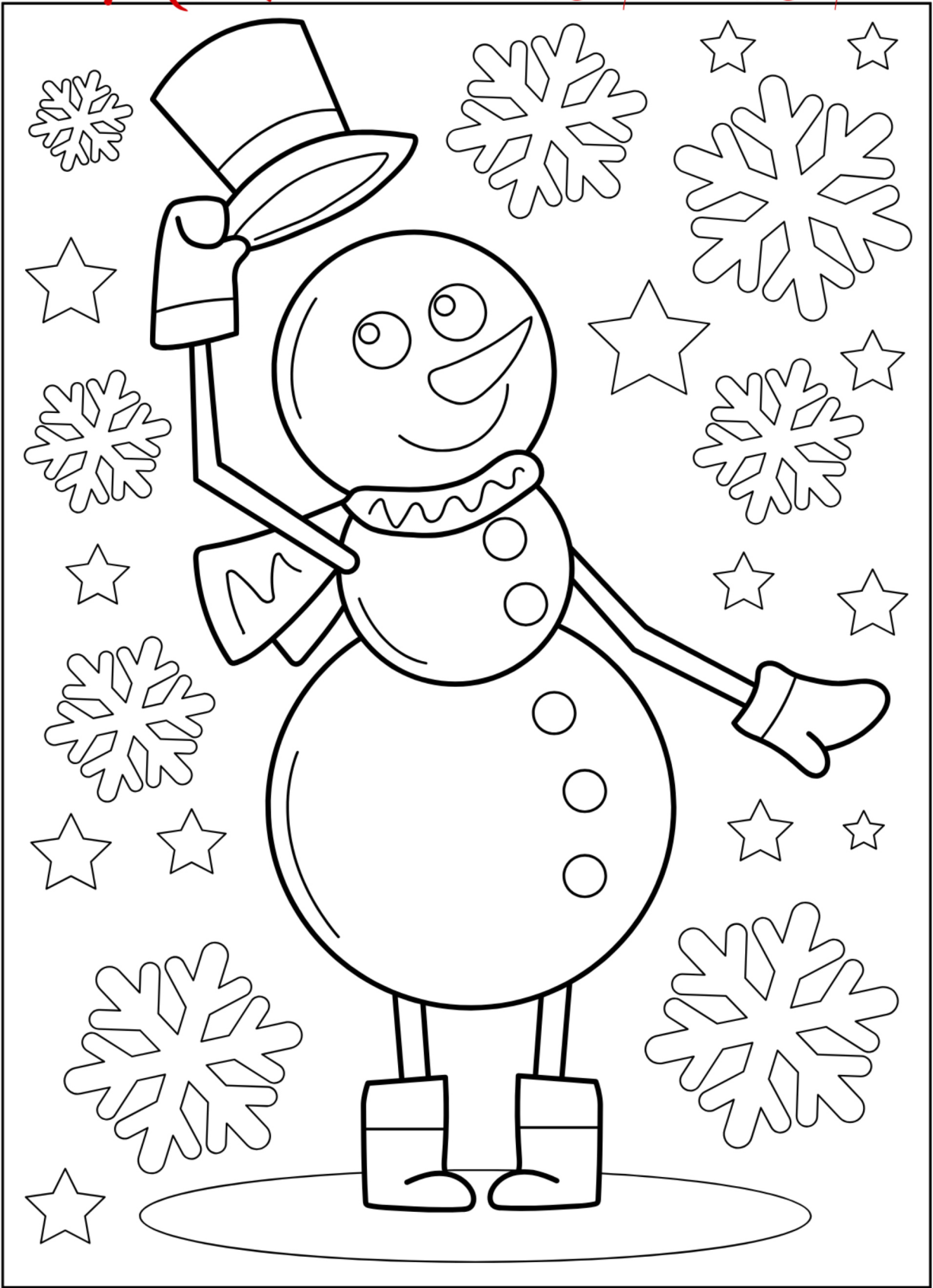
COLOR BY NUMBER



- 1 - ORANGE
- 2 - YELLOW (WISAE)
- 3 - BLACK (SĖKE)
- 4 - PINK (MAXKIKTE)
- 5 - BROWN
- 6 - GREEN (ASKASKWE)
- 7 - BLUE (AONE)
- 8 - PURPLE (CHAKINKWEMIKTE)



Mèli Këlëshmësh



Tribal Member Ace Berry Inducted into California Rodeo Salinas Hall of Fame

Ace Berry – Contestant

A legendary California cowboy, Ace Berry was born on January 13, 1947, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and raised in Oakdale, California. He made his mark early, winning the first round of team roping at the California Rodeo Salinas in 1960 at just 13 years old, and he continued to compete there until 2003. In 1970, he claimed the all-around title, competing in both team roping and bareback riding. He went on to win Salinas’ bareback riding championships in 1975 and 1977, and earned a gold card team roping win in 2002. Ace qualified for the National Finals Rodeo six times in bareback riding and 14 consecutive times in team roping from 1962 to 1975. Just 15 years and 11 months old when he qualified for his first National Finals, Berry made rodeo history in 1972 when he won NFR average titles at both ends of the arena in his two trademark events the same year. Ace Berry is a true cowboy icon whose legacy lives on in California rodeo history.

To see more, visit <https://www.carodeo.com/p/about-us/history/2025-hall-of-fame-inductee-photos--bios> ■



Delaware Tribe Ranch Roundup Coming Soon

Tonya Anna

The Delaware Tribe Ranch continues to grow and thrive every day, and we’re grateful for the dedication of our ranch board—Tanayia Hubler, Jim Pierrer, and Dale Goode—as well as our ranch manager, Shaun Scott. If you’d like to join us for the next ranch roundup, there will be pregnancy checks near the end of September and the beginning of October. Branding of the fall calves will happen at the end of November or the beginning of December. We’ll post announcements on our website as soon as the exact dates are set, so please check back if you’re interested in attending—we’d love to see you there! ■



We believe
in helping
you achieve
your goals.

All communities deserve a financial partner who cares.
That's why we are here to help you plan and reach your goals, every step of the way. Whether your financial journey is just beginning, you are planning for retirement, or anywhere in between, we are here to support you with the financial tools and expertise you need to succeed.

Arvest Bank.
We believe.

ARVEST[®]
Member FDIC

A First Look at Renderings of Our New Cultural Center and Gymnasium

