From the Desk of Chief Brad KillsCrow

Brad KillsCrow, Chief

When the COVID pandemic hit our country in the spring of 2020, the Federal government allocated funds to federally recognized tribal governments to assist Tribes in combating COVID. While most Tribes received a substantial amount of funding through the CARES Act, the Delaware Tribe initially received a comparatively small amount ($423,536.90). However, through the efforts of Ben Barnes, Chief of the Shawnee Tribe, a suit was brought against the U.S. Department of the Treasury over how the amount of funds given to each Tribe was calculated. Chief Barnes included the Delaware Tribe in their suit and the courts found in favor of the Tribes. Therefore, the Delaware Tribe was awarded $19,929,962.00 in addition to the initial $423,536.90 we received.

The problem we then faced was using the funds within the time limitations set by the federal government. All CARES Act funding provided to Tribes had to be spent by December 31, 2021 or be returned to the Federal government. There were also several stringent restrictions on how the funds could be spent which further limited our ability to use the money as we might have wanted to.

Funds were spent improving old outdated technology that desperately needed replacing at the Tribal Complex. We were able to install a new ESI Phone System and purchase new computers for all employees. We installed 4 teleconferencing systems for virtual meetings and conferences and installed 3 video systems. We constructed a Cook Arbor outside of Forsythe Hall for more traditional meals for all our members to use. We also constructed a 3000 square foot Food Pantry that will contain an office, restrooms, walk in freezer, and walk in cooler. Food Sovereignty has become an issue since the pandemic and we hope this pantry will serve all our tribal members in need.

This past summer, the Tribe received additional pandemic related funds through the American Rescue Plan. This funding is far less restrictive than the CARES Act money and has a time period of five years for expending the funds. The Tribe will begin holding Town Hall meetings in January/February to gather community input on how best to spend these funds. Tribal members unable to attend the Community Meetings will also have an opportunity to provide input and information on this process will be forthcoming.

On another note, the Tribe held our annual General Council Meeting on November 13 and even though we did not have a quorum, there was a good discussion among the tribal members present. It was my honor to present the Delaware Veterans Committee with a check from the Tribe for $190,000.00 which will allow them to complete construction of the Delaware Veterans Memorial. The Memorial is being built on the grounds of the Tribal Complex north of the pond. Tribal funds used for this project came from profit the Tribe received from one of our tribal businesses, The Tribal Domicile. I was so glad the Tribe was able to help fund this project since many of the Veteran’s Committee Members are from the Vietnam Era, and we want to be sure they can see this Memorial, which they have worked so long and hard to build, completed during their lifetime. The Memorial will be an honor all our Delaware veterans richly deserve.

I am looking forward to 2022 and what the new year will bring. With the American Rescue Act Funds, the Tribe will have the opportunity to enhance our infrastructure while adding new services and programs for our people. May all of you have a productive and prosperous new year!
From the Desk of Assistant Chief Jeremy Johnson

Jeremy Johnson, Assistant Chief

Hë Lënapeyok! Wëli Newiyal (Happy New Year)! The beginning of a new year allows for reflection on the past years’ triumphs and challenges while allowing us to plan for the future. May this year bring only happiness and joy to you and your families!

This past year has been a busy one for the Tribal Council and our citizens. I’m excited and happy to see the progress in the construction of our food pantry (Têxtakân) and our outside cook arbor (Èhènta Wixënik). I can’t wait to see our citizens utilizing both of these facilities.

As many of you know, Chief KillsCrow and I have been working on establishing relationships with many people and institutions in Pennsylvania and New Jersey which are parts of our original homelands of Lënapehókink.

I am excited about the partnership that is developing between the Tribe and Ursinus College which is located in Collegeville, PA. We are discussing many projects and collaborations that could be beneficial to our citizens. We hope to develop programs that teach our Lenape youth valuable skills while also helping to document our stories and ways for our own Tribal Archives.

Another relationship has been established between the Perkiomen Valley School District in the same area. They are working on creating the Lenape Arboretum, a botanical garden devoted to trees, that will conserve the natural woods that are located on their district properties. The PVSD is working to install a walking trail with markers that detail the Lenape history in the area. This will be the first arboretum established by a public school district in the U.S. and it will bear the name of our Lenape people.

In addition to the arboretum project, the school district would like to develop educational programs for their students to collaborate with our own Lenape youth about our histories, current situation, and future plans for the Tribe.

From the Desk of Tribal Council Treasurer

Rusty Creed Brown

Rusty Creed Brown, Treasurer, Tribal Council

I hope this issue of the DIN finds everyone doing well.

The tribal council is excited about one of the first projects completed under the CARES funding. If you follow the tribe’s social media pages, you have seen progress on the food pantry. The 3000 square foot food pantry includes a walk-in freezer and a walk-in refrigerator. The food pantry is a first step to address food insecurity in our local community. The USDA defines food insecurity as a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food. Food insecurity is different than hunger; hunger is defined as an individual-level physiological condition, which may result from food insecurity.

Food insecurity is strongly correlated with malnutrition and underweight as well as obesity and type 2 diabetes. A National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey found that food insecure individuals are twice as likely to be obese and more likely to have diabetes. Food insecure adults are more likely to have poorly controlled diabetes compared to food secure individuals.

Children struggling with food insecurity may be at greater risk for stunted development, anemia and asthma, oral health problems, and hospitalization. At school, food insecure children are at increased risk of falling behind both academically and socially. Food insecurity is linked to lower reading and mathematics test scores. Food insecure students are likely to exhibit behavioral problems, including hyperactivity, aggression, and anxiety.

Last year, an estimated 1 in 8 Americans were food insecure. However, a published study in the Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition found an average of 1 in 4, 25 percent, of Native families are food insecure.

In an effort to ensure our food pantry is a success and will meet the needs of our community, we are meeting with local food pantries and the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. We are in the beginning process of preparing an operational plan for the food pantry. We welcome your input on how to best serve our community with the food pantry. You are welcome to send me your comments and ideas rcbrown@delawaretribe.org.

From the Desk of Tribal Operations Manager Jimmie Johnson

Jimmie Johnson, Tribal Operations Manager

Happy New Year!! I hope this finds everyone well and recovered from the recent Holidays. We are very excited to start 2022 in a good way here. For this issue of the DIN I would like to thank Chief KillsCrow, Assistant Chief Johnson, and the entire Tribal Council for their dedication and hard work in 2021. Over the past year they have worked tirelessly throughout the year to improve the working environment for our tribal employees and bring our operation into the 21st century. We have seen enormous growth in our staff numbers since January of 2021. We have also weathered tough times with technology failing and supply chain issues causing delays in our processes. The Chief and Tribal Council have stood by and stood up for our employees and have empowered them to do their jobs to the best of their abilities.

The Chief and Tribal Council also went to great lengths to make sure that our tribal members are going to be taken care of with things like Food Pantry construction, Cook Arbor construction, food distribution, and even COVID-19 relief payments to tribal members. The Food Pantry is an exciting addition to the services that the Delaware Tribe Provides and will be a great asset to our tribal community.

We have a very bright future here at the Delaware Tribe and I would like to applaud the Chief and Tribal Council for their work to make great things happen.

I look forward to experiencing what we can all do together in 2022!!

Wanishi ■
Updates From the Housing Department

New Housing Specialist for the Delaware Tribe Housing Program

Mckenzie Loffer is the new housing specialist for DTHP. She is happy to assist Tribal members and tenants with the U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance and the Covid-19 (ERA) Emergency Rental Assistance application process. Miss Loffer answers their questions and concerns with the application process.

McKenzie is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and enjoys spending time with her family. She has a degree in marketing with a minor in International Business from Oklahoma State University, and is working on her MBA with a concentration in Native American Enterprise. She previously worked for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Housing as an Administrative Assistant in Contract Services. She is excited to be out in the field and working more closely with the community. She began working at DTI at the beginning of October and is thoroughly enjoying the Delaware Tribe’s staff, citizens, and her work.

US Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

The U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program is available to Delaware Tribe members. Applications to assist low-income Native American households with rent and utility assistance are being accepted through the Housing Department. Current residents of DTI housing may be eligible for this assistance. The program is limited to three months of assistance at a time and then the applicant must re-apply. This assistance can only be provided to those families who have not yet received any similar assistance from the Delaware Tribe or other sources.

The ERA Program DOES NOT include mortgage assistance, repairs, or installation of items in the unit. After the period of three months from the date of award, the applicant may reapply for additional assistance subject to funding availability and time constraints. The Delaware Tribe reserves the right to make a determination of an applicant’s eligibility based upon the application and documentation provided. Applications with the complete instructions are available in the lobby or can be printed/downloaded from the Delaware Tribe of Indians website.

Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Update from the EPA Department

During General Council, the EPA department gave out energy saving kits to help conserve energy at home. We also held a drawing for 10 Nest thermostats. These items were given to tribal members to promote ways to conserve energy at home. The Wifi Thermostats are a great way to save money and energy.

We also continue to recycle E-waste at Staples for now. We’re also still waiting for Tulsa Recycle and Transfer to open back up so we can resume our recycling efforts. We looked into other solutions for this problem, but with TRT being our best option for sustainability in our recycling program, it was best to wait for them to become operational again.

For more information regarding recycling or energy saving, please contact our EPA Director, Denny Fisher. He can be reached at efisher@delawaretribe.org.

From The Desk of Nicky K. Michael

Nicky K. Michael, Secretary, Tribal Council

Wëli kishku luwàn. I hope each of you are having a wonderful winter day. This last year has brought many changes to our Lënapeyok--some life altering and heartbreaking as well as some incredible blessings. Aside from our federal allotment of COVID relief, we also benefited from the actions of the Shawnee Tribe for taking the federal government to task regarding the amount of tribal assistance. With that assistance, as a unified tribal council, we helped almost everyone who has asked. Though we are not able to financially cover everyone, we exhaust all our efforts to meet the needs as best we could. That is largely due to the Sa-kíma (Chief) KillsCrow and the generosity of each tribal council member.

As secretary, I have asked the staff to assist in opening up additional communication methods to reach all our members. These include Twitter and Instagram. Hopefully most of you have also noticed a difference in the style and etiquette of our facebook pages. The Delaware Children and Family Services have an exceptional page to follow as well. We are revamping the Delaware Indian News to put community as our main focus. We hope to provide an email blast to members soon.

Personally, my goal since first elected in 2014 has continued to remain carving out our 638 programs from the Cherokee Nation. With a new attorney, we have continued to slowly unravel and develop our MOUs to propose to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. As most of you know, the Indian Child Welfare Act is a top priority as well as scholarships. These 638 programs are building blocks for supporting our children and youth.

Last, but certainly not least, northeastern Oklahoma lacks a domestic violence shelter. I am working with our Delaware Tribe Family Services program to identify, apply and build resources for a very needed shelter.

Thank you for all your support and constructive criticism to build a better Delaware Tribe. With your assistance we can keep up a strong and steady pace of ground breaking services and support to our members and the local communities we serve.
**Veterans Committee Report**

*Kenny Brown, Chairman*

The Veterans Committee gives a huge thank you to the Tribal Council and the Domicile Program for putting the Veterans Memorial Wall a priority. I immediately got drawings out for an up to date bid. We plan on selling paving tiles honoring our tribal veterans, to have a walk of honor leading to the Memorial.

The Veterans Committee invited the Delaware War Mothers to become an auxiliary, like the Lenape Veterans Color Guard and Lenape Gourd Dance Society. The War Mothers accepted the invitation and like all our auxiliaries they are autonomous. Having our warrior based organizations united in the Veterans Committee simplifies communication, planning and funding events, and when we get our 501(c)19 Veterans tax exemption, our auxiliaries can use the exemption.

I got with Kendricks Sleeper of the Arapaho StarHawk Society to see if we could form a Junior Auxiliary in the Gourd Society. He told me he saw no problem, and that they also have been discussing a way to involve youth. After posting the idea on our Society group page and not receiving any negative thoughts, I count that as an affirmative vote.

The Gourd Society will take notice of young men in the arena, those who are continuously active and dedicated may be invited to be a Junior Auxiliary member.

Junior membership will consist of young men eight to seventeen years of age. When a junior member reaches eighteen, and has remained dedicated and active he may be invited to join as a full member by ceremony at Copan Delaware Powwow. Criteria for junior membership is the same for full membership in Lenape Gourd Dance Society.

I called Bartlesville BlueStar Moms to see if our Veterans and War Mothers might help them fill the care packages for our troops. They plan on setting a day in January to pack boxes and will contact me so we can help.

The Delaware War Mothers and Lenape Gourd Dance Society are discussing plans for a co-hosted Gourd Dance in 2022, something to pray about!

The COVID Virus has disrupted many plans and events, cancellation of Delaware Days had effected the honoring of our Tribal Veterans. This year during our General Council the Veterans Committee honored John Thomas, U.S. Army and Curtis Zunigha, U.S. Air Force. Thank you for serving and all you both do for our tribe.

The Veterans Committee hopes your Christmas was a merry one full of wonder and your New Year will be Blessed.

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**More From the Veterans Committee**

*Sarah Boyd, Secretary, Veterans Committee*

The Veterans Committee would like to wish you a Happy Holiday Season. We hope you are well and warm. A letter along with a Christmas card was sent out to our Delaware Veterans. Correction to that letter regarding meetings. The letter stated we meet the last Tuesday of the month and actually we meet the fourth Tuesday of the month, 6pm at the Delaware Tribal Center.

The Veterans Committee is applying for 501(c)19 tax exemption. The auxiliaries can then utilize the exemption and inner communication and funding for events will be simplified.

Also, the Lenape Gourd Dance Society is adding a Junior Auxiliary.

Lots of good things are in the works and we are excited for the new year ahead. As always we welcome and encourage your participation in our meetings and or activities. You can find info on the Delawaretribe.org website under Services/Programs then scroll down and click on Veterans Committee.

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**Tribal Office Door Decorating Contest Winners**

- **Stacy Emert, first place**
- **Toni Mahlo, second place**
- **Melissa Rupprecht, third place**
- **Aimee Turner, fourth place**
Youth Interview with Anna Pate

**What cultural practices or experiences taught to you are most meaningful?**

All my experiences have been meaningful to me but the one closest to my heart was my naming ceremony done by my Great Uncle Dee Ketchum. It was one of the last that he had done so I feel sad and honored at the same time. During the time serving as princess was probably my most nerve racking experiences due to the unknown. Culturally I had the privilege of going to Wisconsin for a cultural trip and had the opportunity of meeting their princesses, elders and chiefs. Learning the differences in our cultural experiences and history really brought us together to discuss how it affected us all.

**What are your biggest goals for Lenape Youth going forward?**

I want the youth to have an outlet to be involved with the tribe. Having a program set up will benefit our future generations to have a space and voice to be heard and involved.

**What is your advice to our young Delaware members?**

I urge everyone to be involved at whatever capacity you are able. This will help lay the ground work for the future of others.

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Elder Interview with Dorothy Francis Wilson Jackson

Dorothy Francis Wilson Jackson, 101-year-old Delaware woman as interviewed by her son, Kenny Brown.

**Kenny:** What are some of your fondest memories from your childhood?

**Dorothy:** As the youngest child by many years, I played alone. I had a pet squirrel. It had fallen out of its nest and daddy found it. It was very little, and I fed it with an eye dropper. It grew and it was tame. I had a pet Banty hen and a pet pig, they both followed me around like a puppy. My pet kitten liked to follow momma to the barn at milking time to bed for squirts of milk. We had a horse that was very patient with me. It would stand against the fence while I climbed the fence to get on. It would stand and wait for me patiently to climb down and back up to open and close the gate. Besides the animals I made my own toys. I made kites out of sticks and newspaper, and they really flew. I made darts out of matches and straight pins.

**Kenny:** What part of our culture or traditions do you hold important?

**Dorothy:** My parents, aunts and uncles spoke and understood Lenape but rarely used it. I never learned to speak it fluently and I regret that.

**Kenny:** What advice would you like to give our youth?

**Dorothy:** Learn all you can of our culture and language. You are Delaware.

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Become a Featured Artist

We are now accepting and encouraging your submissions of your visual art in all mediums. Including but not limited to painting, drawing, sculpture, digital art, collage, photography, mixed media, bead work, clay, wood, glass, printmaking, metal, weaving and more.

The DIN committee will provide the opportunity for one applicant to feature their art in full color in an upcoming issue of the Delaware Indian Newspaper.

The featured artist will be asked to provide a minimum of one(1) photo of their artwork with a maximum of four photos. There is no limit on the pieces of artwork showcased as long as the minimum and maximum number of photos are adhered to.

In addition, the featured artist will be asked to submit an article along with their artwork. This may be a short bio, description of the artwork, or inspiration behind it. Editing by the DIN will be offered if requested.

If the artist is selling their work, the featured artist will also be entitled to the business card size advertisement space for sale within the DIN ads. This space will be provided free of charge to the featured artist. If a business card is currently in use by the artist, it may be uploaded and emailed into the DIN. If the artist does not have a business card but would like to use the free space, they may email the DIN the phone number, email, or website to publish for people interested in purchasing their work.

All artists are encouraged to submit their artwork for consideration.

By featuring a Delaware Artist in each DIN we hope to bring inspiration to the DIN readers. Whether art is used as a cultural celebration, as an avenue to provide income, or as a means of enjoyment, we hope to share the creativity among us.

Please email submissions to: dinedit@delawaretribe.org
Community Services Programs

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

The Community Services committee has reinstated programs previously suspended and revised or kept the same, dollar amount of benefits that were previously reduced. Based on the anticipated availability of funding, applications for the following programs are being accepted. Tribal members are only allowed to apply for two applications per fiscal year. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Burial Program:** $750.00
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.) Documentation required to establish membership and proof of death.

**Elder Prescriptions:** Prescription medication assistance to Delaware Elders age 60 and over for Pharmacy and related costs. Elders may receive assistance up to $75.00 per month not to exceed $900.00 per calendar year. Funds may be disbursed to vendors or reimburse applicants with proper documents and receipts.

**Medical Assistance:** Assistance to pay medical bills, including but not limited to out of pocket medical expenses, medical equipment (purchase or rental), Home health care, pharmacy, etc. not to exceed $300.00 Payment for services will be made to provider or Tribal member if paid receipts are included with other required documentation.

**Emergency Assistance & Rental Assistance:** Available to Delaware Tribal members. Funds may be used for services, family meals, wake, grave markers, etc. not to exceed $300.00 Payment for services will be made to provider or Tribal member if paid receipts are included with other required documentation.

**Dental Assistance:** Reinstated to $300. Provides assistance for dental services including tooth repair, fillings, dentures or emergency services. Income verification required.

**Optical Assistance:** Provides assistance for optical services to Delaware Tribal Members. Funds may be used for services, including glasses, exams or related costs up to $200.00 annually.

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.

**Trust Fund Higher Education School Scholarship:** Delaware Tribal members attending college are eligible to apply. Currently, full-time students may apply for $600 per semester for up to eight semesters, and part-time students may apply for $300 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 December 1 through February 15.

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.

Curtis Zunigha Honored as Veteran of the Year

Curtis Zunigha was honored as the 2021 Veteran of the Year at the annual General Council meeting on November 13. Zunigha served in the US Air Force from 1972-78. He currently serves on the Lenape Veterans Color Guard and the Veterans Committee.

Standing next to him is Allan Barnes, Tribal Insurance Commissioner.

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 Web Site:
www.delawaretribe.org

General Email:
tribe@delawaretribe.org
ANNOUNCEMENT: Town Hall Meeting on March 5, 2022

Topic: Citizens’ Input on How to Utilize the ARPA Monies

Lunch will be served at noon and the meeting will start at 1 P.M. All tribal members welcome!

Delaware Tribe of Indians and East Stroudsburg University Write Grant for Student Exhibit

Ongoing Partnership

As part of our continued agreement with East Stroudsburg University, our Eastern Office partnered with the Art and Design Department to develop a student led exhibit connecting the Lenape with the land that East Stroudsburg University sits on!

We wrote an East Stroudsburg GROW IT grant that allows for up to $1500 dollars available for DTI Community member for travel and interview.

About the Proposed Exhibit

The exhibit is meant to show the connections between the land, indigenous people, early settlers and East Stroudsburg University. Building on connectivity, there will also be a virtual presence for this exhibit which will be made available through the Indigenous Peoples page part of Diversity and Inclusion Excellence outreach program. As part of the display, using QR codes, visitors will be encouraged to walk through campus to experience the main campus while learning about the connection between East Stroudsburg University and the Delaware Tribe. Visitors can stroll and reflect on the names of prominent buildings on campus including Lenape Residence Hall, Minsi Residence Hall, and Shawnee Residence Hall. They will be encouraged to tour the Woodland Biome display there to view a selection of the animals that were of importance to the Lenape. Additionally, a partnership with the Schisler Museum and McMunn Planetarium will play a key role in the education of school-age visitors.

Pine Boxes To Be Used To Rebury Abbott Farm Ancestors Have Arrived At Pennsbury Manor – 10/19/2020

The re-burial for the Abbott Farm ancestors is preliminary scheduled at Pennsbury Manor, Bucks County, Pennsylvania the end of March beginning of April. All three Lenape Nations - Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe, and the Stockbridge-Munsee are working together to make this happen! We will have more updates as planning will begin to accelerate after the new year.

Chet Brooks Memorial Scholarship—Deadline February 15, 2022

The family of Chief Brooks wishes to make a one-time scholarship for two students in his honor. Amount will be unknown until the deadline date. The mission of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to individuals enrolled for undergraduate or postgraduate study in community colleges, junior colleges, and universities. The Scholarship principally targets two- and four-year academic programs. The application may be found online at http://delawaretribe.org/blog/2021/09/24/chet-brooks-memorial-scholarship-announced/.

If you have any questions about the application, please contact us at (918)-337-6590.
Delaware Tribe Receives a Gift From Toys For Tots Foundation

With the swiftness of Santa himself the Delaware Tribe of Indians headquarters was surprised to receive a donation of toys for our childcare center and the Lenapeowsi Christmas Dance this year. It began as a friendly phone call asking if we needed toys and ended up being two truckloads of goodies to be given away and lots of smiling faces in the end.

The Toys for Tots Foundation Native American Program is Nationally known and has been in existence since 1980. It was established by the Marine Corps League and just one site is in Oklahoma, the Osage Detachment #669. This is a picture of the toys donated to us in an effort to spread Christmas Joy to Native American children.

Delaware Tribe Seeks Ethnographic Researcher for Delaware Water Gap Recreational Area

The Delaware Tribe of Indians is seeking a qualified, self-sufficient, and thorough researcher for immediate hire. Individual must be fully qualified as an expert of traditional knowledge or heritage protection, and research. Using extensive research methodologies, the selected individual will prepare an ethnographic overview and assessment on indigenous interests, both past and present, in the Delaware Water Gap national Recreational Area. Researcher will work closely with federally recognized indigenous nations.

Researcher Job Duties and Responsibilities

- Document, report, and present research findings
- Collaborate with (3) US and (2) Canadian Federally recognized Lenape Nations

Researcher Requirements and Qualifications

- Considered an expert in traditional knowledge (leadership supported) and/or master’s degree in research, planning, anthropology, or related field required
- Extensive and proven experience in field of research
- Knowledgeable in various research and testing methodologies
- Proficient using Microsoft Office Suite
- Perform objective and ethical research at all times
- Effective communicator, both orally and written

Travel will be necessary. Extended stays in the Delaware Water Gap Area will be necessary. Visits to Oklahoma, NY, Wisconsin, and Canada will be necessary. Travel funds are budgeted.

To send resumes or request further information please contact Susan Bachor at sbachor@DelawareTribe.onmicrosoft.com.
Tribal Member Dempsey Gillman To Play Baseball for Wichita State University

Dempsey Price Gillman signed with Wichita State University on 11/10/2021. He is a class of 2022 recruit. He attends Metro Christian High School with a 4.2 GPA. He plans to major in Homeland Security. He is the son of Jimmy and Missy Buck Gillman, Grandson to the late Bucky Buck and Sandy Buck, and Great Grandson to the late Bonnie Lee Thaxton.

Tribal Member Curtis Zunigha Selected For 2021 AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors

Curtis Zunigha, 68, is a 5th-generation resident of Washington County, OK whose Delaware Indian ancestors arrived in Indian Territory in 1867. He is an enrolled member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians based in Bartlesville. He is currently employed at the Delaware Tribe Cultural Center and is a practitioner of Delaware/Lenape history, culture, language, customs & traditions.

Beginning in 1984 his tribal service has included various roles in managing Operations, Housing, and Social Services. He has also been elected to the Tribal Council (1984-88 and 2004-08). From 1994-1998 Curtis Zunigha was elected and served as the Chief of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. In 1995 Chief Zunigha was appointed by Governor Frank Keating to the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission where he served two terms. Mr. Zunigha has a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from North Texas State University (1980) and an Associate Degree in Broadcasting from Rogers State College, Oklahoma (1986). From 1988-1995 he was producer/host of “Drum Beats” a Native American community affairs television program on KXON-TV at Rogers State College in Claremore. Curtis served as the Manager of the American Indian/Alaska Native Population Program for the U.S. Census Bureau in Washington, D.C, during the 2010 Census. He also serves as a Co-Director of the Lenape Center (www.thelenapecenter.com) a non-profit arts & culture organization based in New York City.

Curtis Zunigha is third-generation U.S. military veteran having served in the U.S. Air Force (1972-78). Today he is a member of the Lenape Veterans Color Guard and Lenape Gourd Dance Society.
Verna Sue Artherton

September 17, 1940 – November 15, 2021

Verna Sue Artherton of Bartlesville, Ok daughter of Prince Albert and Myrtle Mae (Falleaf) Black was born September 17th, 1940 in Copan Ok. Verna passed away surrounded by her family on Nov. 15, 2021, at the age of 81.

Verna attended Seneca Indian school in Wyandotte OK.,Haskell Indian school in Lawrence KS. and Bartlesville Business College. She retired from the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

She was a proud member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Verna’s family belong to the Turtle Clan and shared a deep seeded root in Native American ancestry and culture.

Verna was a long-time member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Verna’s family belong to the Turtle Clan and shared a deep seeded root in Native American ancestry and culture. She was there for her children and grandchildren and loved each one dearly. She loved having the grandchildren and great grandchildren around her. She closely followed her grandsons racing and football careers.

Her favorite shows were Wheel of Fortune, Law and Order and The Voice.

Verna was preceded in death by her parents along with two brothers Douglas W. Falleaf and Albert Eugene Black.

We know that she is received by our ancestors and loved and cared for. Her homecoming is undoubtedly a joyful celebration of love and reunion with family that went before her.

Survivors include 5 children: Benita Shea, Dale (Pistol) Artherton, Dennis Artherton, Deanna Cowart and husband, James Cowart and Sandra Artherton, all of Bartlesville OK. 11 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren and a host of other family and friends.

Graveside services were held on Sunday, November 21st, at 10 A.M. at the Delaware Indian cemetery north of Dewey, Okla.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Verna’s honor can be sent to the Delaware Pow Wow Association c/o Elaine Clinton 401050 W 600 Road, Copan, Okla 74022.

Tara Lea Meairs “Boone”

September 10, 1985 – October 18, 2021

Tara Lea Meairs “Boone”, age 36, passed away October 18, 2021 after a long battle with Pulmonary Hypertension. Tara was born September 10, 1985 in Wichita, KS to Teddy Meairs and Bobbi Meairs.

Visitation was held 1:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. with the family present from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Monday, October 25, 2021. Funeral service was at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at Prairie Trail Cowboy Church, Haysville. Burial followed at Greenwood Cemetery.

Tara grew up in Haysville, KS, riding horses and pow wow dancing. She had a love for all animals, especially dogs and hanging out with Grandma Cheryl. She was married in the spring of 2005 and from this marriage had 3 children, Alexsis, Christopher and Lilyanne. She spent the remainder of her days loving and caring for her children. They were her whole life. Even after becoming ill in 2011, she did everything she could to make sure they were happy and healthy.

She is preceded in death by her grandmother, Cheryl Howland. Tara is survived by her children, Alexsis Nicole, James Christopher Wayne, and Lilyanne Michelle Jolene, her mother, Bobbi Meairs, her father, Teddy (Peggy) Meairs, her brother Colt (Jessica) Meairs, niece, Emmerson and nephew, Nash, her grandfather, Delbert Howland and grandparents, Buck and Jaynie Meairs. Tara also leaves behind numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, please send donations to the GoFundMe account to help cover funeral expenses. https://gofund.me/78387155.

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.

Deborah (Debbie) May Brown

December 31, 1952 – November 9, 2021

Deborah (Debbie) May Brown passed away surrounded by her loved ones on November 9, 2021, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma at age 69. Debbie was born on December 31, 1951, to Walter White and Mary Secondine in Ponca City, Oklahoma. Debbie graduated from Dewey High School in 1970, and later married the love of her life, Robert Brown on September 7, 1976, and became a housewife. She enjoyed cooking, reading, camping, fishing, baseball, and watching the St. Louis Cardinals play. Debbie was preceded in death by her father, Walter; her mother Mary; brother, Ralph White; sister, Sandy Jones; sister, Karen Roberts; husband, Robert Kenneth Brown; nephew, Ralph White; and niece Jeannie White.

She is survived by her daughter Cody Blackmon and wife Barbara; grandchildren, Seth Olin, Madison and Jakeb of Kensington, Kansas, her daughter Emily Jane Brown and significant other Buck Haney; grandchildren Kayleigh and Wyatt Crowell of Bartlesville, brothers, Charles Walter White, and Ricky Ray White; and her sister Annetta Jane Christenson.

Carole Sue Tennent Stewart Holder

November 9, 1940 – May 21, 2021

Carole Sue Tennent Stewart Holder was born November 9, 1940 in Claremore, OK. She was raised and received her education in Nowata, OK.

She married Bob Stevens in 1957 in which there were four children born to this union. She worked for both the Delaware and Cherokee tribe of Indians as a community health representative. She also worked as a hairdresser in Nowata.

In 1981 she married Steve Holder moving to southeast Oklahoma. In 1989 she moved to Tulsa going to work for Prudential who later became Saint Francis Health Systems, staying there until retirement in 2005. In 1994 she moved
Obituaries (cont.)

Dorman Gail Morse

January 4, 1947 – January 12, 2021

Dorman Gail Morse passed away in Dewey on Jan. 12, 2021. The proud veteran, family man and all-rounded go-getter was aged 74 years and 8 days.

Dorman was born on Jan. 4, 1947, to John Frederick and Bertha Mae (Gates) Morse in Independence, KS. He grew up with his sister Joycelind. Shortly after high school he enlisted in the US Air Force and served two tours in Vietnam from 1965 to 1970. On April 30, 1971, Dorman married the love of his life, Darlene; two daughters, Julia Ernest and husband Judd of Bartlesville, and Karen Gamboa and husband Rico of Glendale, AZ; six grandchildren, Xavier Gamboa of AZ, Anthony Gamboa of AZ, Andrew Dodson and wife Kaleigh of Bartlesville, Gena Monroe and husband Dylan of Glendale, AZ, Matthew Dodson of Waco, TX, Dakota Gamboa and boy friend Josh of Santan Valley, AZ, and Allie Ernest of Bartlesville; six great-grandchildren Aubrey, Charlee, Braxlee, Brooklyn, Xander, and Cachten; and sister Joyce Lind Wilson and husband Andy of Neosho, MO.

In lieu of flowers, Dorman’s family has asked that donations be made to Washington County SPCA, 16620 OK-123, Dewey, OK 74029, or the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) 399519 US-60, Bartlesville, OK 74006. Friends and family are encouraged to wear red for R.E.D. Friday to show solidarity and support for our deployed service members.

All previously planned services have been cancelled. Arrangements are under the direction of Carter Davis and the Davis Funeral Home. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Stephen L. Rodenberg

October 16, 1967 – October 12, 2021

On Tuesday, October 12, 2021, Stephen L. Rodenberg, loving son, father and grandfather, passed away at the age of 53.

Steve is the son of former Vice Chief and Tribal Judge Sally Farley.

Steve was born on October 16, 1967 in Oklahoma City to James and Sally Rodenberg. He graduated from Bartlesville High School in 1985. He attended the University of Oklahoma in 1985-86, and received his bachelor’s degree from the Central State University in Edmond in 1990. He received his Respiratory Therapist certificate from Rose State College in Midwest City in 1991.

Steve worked as a respiratory therapist for over 25 years, most recently at Choctaw Memorial Hospital in Hugo.

Steve had a passion for riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle and sharing his love of life through YouTube videos as
Delaware War Mothers

Tonya Anna

Happy New Years to all! We expect things to pick up in 2022 and continue to accept new members without any membership dues this year. The Veterans Committee has taken us in under their wing so to speak. DWM will meet at the same time and day so we will have the opportunity to collaborate together if the need arises. Otherwise, we will meet in a separate room. Hope to see more involvement from the women of our tribe whether you are Delaware by blood or want to represent your native veteran. There has been some confusion on who can join. This organization consists of Native American women who are representing veterans of all races. We also accept women of all races who are representing a Native American Veteran. Why is this open to non Delawares? Our group has become so small that we are trying to keep it alive for our future generations. In the past we have had garage sales, chili cook offs, veteran ceremonies, assisted veterans in time of need, powwows, and various fund raising. This year we would like to do more projects together at our meetings to make it more fun and not always planning events. If you have been a war mother in the past I ask for you to reconsider and come back. For anyone thinking about joining I invite you to come to at least one meeting to see what we are about. Bring your thinking cap and sense of humor because we sure do have a good time! Remember, we meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 P.M. located at tribal headquarters.

2022 Welcomes back the Editorial Committee

Dana Murrell, Vice Chair, Editorial Committee

The Delaware Indian News (DIN) welcomes back the oversight of the editorial committee. For the last few years the committee has been inactive and now that is changing. 2022 will be a comeback year for the Editorial Committee, members of the committee are Leslie Jerden, Dana Murrell, Tonya Anna, and Joe Brown. We hope that as a committee we will be able to bring an exciting feel back to the newspaper. We had our first meeting and we are up and running to create a welcoming and interesting paper experience for our tribal members. We know that there are readers out there who appreciate what we do and we want to hear from you. We want to engage with our readers so that they will get more from us than expected. We want to spotlight the elders and the members who create native art for a more personable experience. We want to ask our readers for their opinions and take those to heart. We want to hear from our youth and what interests them. Most importantly we want to hear from you when we are doing something right. Please take a moment to write back or email when you feel like it. We encourage our readers to speak up and help “make” our paper. Going forward we hope to bring a positive experience to the Delaware Indian News and its tribal members.

To contact the editorial committee please email dinedit@delawaretribe.org

Delaware Tribe Gift Shop Update

Our Gift Shop now has satin jackets with the tribal seal and a quilted liner. They come in red or black and are available in sizes Large, X-Large and 2-XL. Other sizes are available by special order.

All gift shop items can be purchased online at www.delawaretribe.org/shop/

Major credit cards accepted and your purchase can be picked up or mailed.

For more information call Anita Mathis at 918-337-6595 or 918-338-9919. Wanishi

Young Lenape Leaders Launches In January

Anna Pate

Did you know wëski awènik means young people? On November 20, 2021 the Tribal Council approved for Young Lenape Leaders program to be designed for youth involvement. Collaboration between myself, Chief Killscrow, and Jeremy Johnson we came up with Young Lenape Leaders. Anyone between the ages of 12 to 20 may contact me at apate@delawaretribe.org for information or if you would like to be involved. On January 22, 2022 at 12 P.M. we will be conducting our first meeting at the tribal center. We will also be on Facebook live on the Delaware Tribe of Indians main Facebook page if you are unable to attend in person. So bring your ideas and let’s brainstorm!
Stories Of Our Past —The Remarkable History Of The Delaware Tribe Of Indians

Anita Mathis, Tribal Archivist

Here in the Archives we have many wonderful pictures, documents, and objects of our Ancestors----from the past to the present.

This article will be about the Bartlesville Area History Museum (BAHM) and the wonderful exhibit they put up on our Tribe titled Delaware: The Faces Of the Lenape

BAHM ran a 3 month long exhibit from September, 1 through November 30, 2021. It was an opportunity to learn more about the Lenape people through Bartlesville Area History Museum and the eyes of cultural experts and members of the Delaware Tribe, it was a great success, the 3 month long exhibit was held September 1, through November 30, 2021 at the Bartlesville Area History Museum here in Bartlesville. Special guests included Delaware Chief Brad KillsCrow, Delaware Tribal Princess Morgan Messimore, Delaware Cultural Center Director Curtis Zunigha, Tribal Archivist, and Language Program Director Jim Rementer. They took guests on a virtual tour of the “Delaware: The Faces of Lenape” exhibit in the Pioneer Gallery on Nov. 16.

Museum coordinator Delaney Williams said that tribal members added nuance to the experience and more information than already existed in the exhibit. The exhibit attracted a lot of interest and visitors. “It was a lot of fun to get to talk to people,” Williams said. “We’ve actually had a lot of people who are descendants to some of these people who have bios on the panels.”

The exhibit was a collaboration between museum staff and the Delaware Cultural Center with items on loan from the Cultural Center and Woolaroc. It included 21 panels of carefully researched information that highlighted key points in the history of the Delaware Tribe from the 1500s to today.

More than 70 objects were on display including musical instruments, traditional clothing, and the original Charles Journeycake stained glass from the Journeycake Memorial Baptist Church (now First Baptist Church Dewey).

“Washington County has a rich and diverse history,” Delaney said. “This exhibit showed you the world of the Lenape tribe as they left their Pennsylvania homeland, transitioned to Indian Territory and their cultural foothold as experienced today.”

There were a couple of events for children during the exhibit.

The Bartlesville Area History Museum hosted a fall break children’s program on October 14th. The program centered on the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Participants toured the special exhibit to explore the rich history of the Delaware people. There were special guest speakers from the Delaware Cultural Center. Students in 3rd through 6th grades were welcomed to attend.

Through the months of October and November the kiddos were brought to the Bartlesville Area History Museum to enjoy exploring the exhibit through a scavenger hunt. The scavenger hunt was free and all children who participate received a sticker declaring them as a “History Hero.”

Also there was a Livestream face book event that you may watch by going to the Bartlesville Area History Museum face book page or by going to http://www.bartlesvillehistory.com/

All who had a hand in making this happen.

Left to Right Curtis Zunigha, Chief Brad KillsCrow, Delaware Princess Morgan Messimore, Anita Mathis and Jim Rementer

Left to Right: Chief Brad KillsCrow, Curtis Zunigha, Betty Keim, Cecelia Biggoose, Anita Mathis, Princess Morgan Messimore and Delaney William. Delaney worked very hard and spent many hours researching and putting this exhibit together. Wanishi, to all of you.
Lenape Language Report

Jim Rementer, Director, Lenape Language Project

What’s New: The Lenape Talking Dictionary was funded by the National Science Foundation starting on June 1, 2020 for a year and a half. Our grant ended November 30, 2021 but we will continue to add to and improve the Dictionary.

Working with Lenape Speakers: The photo is of Fred Falleaf taking part in a hand game in 1966 at the Delaware Powwow.

Listen here: https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=16642

Another person who contributed to the Lenape Talking Dictionary was Freddie Washington. Here he is in his younger days taking part in an event at the Washington County Fair in 1932.

Listen here: https://www.talk-lenape.org/stories?id=64

Annie Brown Parks, 1891 – 1980. Annie worked on the language during the 1960s with linguists Ives Goddard, Bruce Pearson, then graduate students working on their dissertations, and also Jim Rementer. She was probably in her 20s when the photo was taken.

Listen here: https://www.talk-lenape.org/stories?id=29

What’s Newest: We continue to add to the Lenape Names lists. The lists contain the Lenape words, images, the English translations, and links back to the sound files in the Lenape Talking Dictionary. These are found on the tribal website: https://delawaretribe.org/blog/2013/06/26/language/.

Several new lists were recently posted and here is the list:


Revived: We are doing the Lenape Word-a-Day calendars. The downloadable calendar is posted on the Tribal website (https://delawaretribe.org/) with a calendar for that month, and will continue to be posted at the beginning of each month. There are sound files for each of these words which can be found in the Lenape Talking Dictionary: https://www.talk-lenape.org/.

Calendar 2022: A free Lenape calendar for 2022 is ready and it can be downloaded from the tribal website at this address: https://delawaretribe.org/wp-content/uploads/Delaware-Calendar-2022.pdf

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January 2022

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 March 15, 2022 for the April 2022 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.

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Leslie Jerden, Dana Murrell, Tonya Anna
Technical Editor: Joe Brown
(din@delawaretribe.org)
Yup Math Tutoring

Yup is an online math tutoring service that provides students with access to live, certified math tutors.

- Instant access to 1:1 direct support
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Visit schools.yup.com/sign_up/delawaretribe to sign up today!

Photos From The 2021 Delaware/Lenapeowsi Powwow