



DELAWARE INDIAN NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS

Lēnapeí Pampil

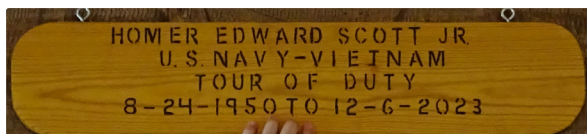
January 2025 ■ Volume 48, Issue No. I

From the Desk of Chief Brad KillsCrow

Brad KillsCrow, Chief, Delaware Tribe of Indians

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. 2024 was another prosperous and exciting year for our Tribe. As we come to the end of the ARPA era, we are thankful to the Biden Administration for allocating federal dollars from the COVID-19 pandemic recovery assistance to our Tribe. With this money we were able to invest deeply in the Tribe and our future. I'm proud of investments we made that will continually support the future of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. We have two big projects left to complete; namely the construction of the Gymnasium and of the Culture Center, both of which will be on campus here in Bartlesville.

In October we had our Delaware Tribe Ranch Open House. It was an inspiring event, and many tribal members were able to come out and look at the land and operations of our very own ranch. The Ranch Board was there and available to answer many questions about this new endeavor. There were tours of the new ranch house, barns, land, and our herd of cattle. We dedicated the North Ranch Manager House as "Homer's Place" with a commemorative plaque. Homer Scott, a former Councilman, was very instrumental in starting up the ranch, where he worked as co-manager. Homer was set to move into the ranch manager's house prior to his untimely passing. We will forever be grateful for Homer's vision and will continue his legacy as we proudly move forward in our ranch operations.



Also in October, our very own Teton Trade Cloth by Lenape held their fashion show here in Bartlesville. We saw artists and designers from all over Indian Country travel here to display their works. It was a great turnout, and Teton has continued to rise in the national spotlight!

In November we hosted a Veterans Day ceremony and breakfast here at our complex. I would like to thank both the Veterans Committee and our Veteran Services Coordi-



ator Steve Donnell for planning and executing such an event that honored all our Lenape Veterans. It was nice to host such an event at our new Veterans Memorial for our own Lenape Veterans. I know they plan on making this an annual event so plan on attending next year as we honor our own again.

December was a busy month, as we spent a lot of time closing out the ARPA monies that had to be obligated by the end of the month. I want to acknowledge our CFO Kendall Reith and her team of accountants who worked diligently to make sure that we were in compliance with all our ARPA financial requirements and that we did in fact obligate all the remaining monies and did not have to send any of that money back to the Federal Government. This was a long and tedious process, but they got it done and I couldn't be more pleased with our team!

I attended the Tribal Nations White House Summit in Washington, DC hosted by the Department of Interior and President Joe Biden. This Summit has been crucial in years past giving tribal leaders a seat at the table to discuss issues with the top leaders in our country for the betterment of all of Indian Country. During my time in Washington, I also met with Congressman Frank Pallone-NJ, Congressman Donald Norcross-NJ, and Senator John Fetterman-PA to discuss the issue of the fake Lenape tribes in their respective states. It was good to educate the New Jersey Congressmen on the issue while Senator Fetterman already knew of the fake groups in PA trying to get state

recognition. Senator Fetterman has no intention of giving state recognition to those groups!

The Tribe hosted the annual Christmas party for our members and youth in Forsythe hall. We had a tremendous turnout, and the children received presents, visited with Santa, and had Indian tacos for dinner. It was a huge success, and I would like to thank Emily Haney and our Events Committee for putting this together for our community.

As we move into the New Year I wish nothing but the best for each and every one of you. I pray that 2025 will be a successful and prosperous year for you and yours as well as the Delaware Tribe of Indians!

Wanishi
Brad KillsCrow
Delaware Tribe of Indians, Chief ■



From The Desk of Assistant Chief Tonya Anna

Tonya Anna, Assistant Chief, Delaware Tribe of Indians

As we begin the passage for 2025, please take a minute and reflect on this past year. Think of the progress you made throughout 2024. Whether it was a personal goal, finishing a project at work, or completing a task that we put off, it always feels good to check those items off our To-Do List. If by chance you didn't get to mark off a task/goal, now you have a new year to work on it and make it happen. Just like the quote by James Bryant Conant, "Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out." So, try something new, get involved, and progress through 2025—you may just surprise yourself with what you can do.

Congratulations to new Tribal Council members Rusty, Lindsey, and Kay on your installation. I wish you the best as you represent us over the next four years. Once again, General Council was short of meeting the quorum and turned into a very informative Town Hall meeting. Good questions and ideas were presented to council to take into consideration.



Now that ARPA monies have been committed to projects for completion by the end of 2026, I am excited to start the demolition of the Peru Truck Stop and rebuild the convenience store. After visiting the Peru Town Council to get a feel for their expectations it was decided to start small like they previously had. We will keep you updated as progress begins for this endeavor.

To encourage fellowship and with winter upon us, the Tribe has decided that Forsythe Hall will be open for all Elders to utilize. Please feel free to come and gather for a game of Cards, Dominoes, Scrabble, etc. If games aren't your thing, we en-

courage you to bring a craft to work on or even start a book club. A jigsaw puzzle has begun and is left out during the week for anyone to work on. The Delaware Tribe of Indians will provide coffee (does not include cappuccino machine) and will have the doors unlocked at 8:00 A.M. on days of availability. Please keep in mind there are chair exercises on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday starting at 9:30 A.M. Please sit at the back of the room to give the ones exercising an hour to use their space. As winter approaches keep in mind that the center may close due to inclement weather. If at any time Forsythe Hall is unavailable for a morning gathering an announcement will be made as soon as possible. Our phone system has been updated with an automated recording so you may call 918-337-6590 on days in question to see if the campus is closed.

The end of the year has been hard on several families with the passing of loved ones. Losing someone special to us is never easy and no matter how prepared we think we are, no one is ever

ready to let go of someone they love. Each one of us is full of knowledge whether you realize it or not. Are you living the oral tradition? I look back on my own personal experience with my grandfather, Richard Falleaf Sr., and how I wished I listened to him more when he was telling stories. As a young person I didn't think to ask questions and felt I had a lifetime to ask. Well, life happens and a lot of us think later in life, "Wish I would have asked more questions or listened when I had the opportunity." Take the time to listen and don't be afraid to ask questions because when one passes away those opportunities goes with them. So don't hurry through life that it passes you by, take the time to soak up all the knowledge you can and

pass it on for others to take pleasure in so hopefully they pass it on as well.

In closing, don't forget to take care of yourself! February is Heart Health Awareness Month and what better time to start with small steps. Get screened for blood pressure and cholesterol levels, be active, eat healthy, manage stress, and sleep well. Easier said than done, but what do you have to lose? Utilize the Jack Tatum Mile on the days it's nice outside or visit the Wellness Center and speak with Cody Blackmon about what fitness plans will help you reach your goals. ■



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 tanna@delawaretribe.org or call (918) 337-6531.

Lenapeowski 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. ■

Meat Donation to Food Pantry

Tonya Anna

On December 19, 2024, the Food Pantry received a meat donation from Alleman Acres. Nathan & Ann Marie Alleman, their son Miles, and Hannah Beck arrived with 250 one-pound packages of hamburger! We very much appreciate them for thinking of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and wanting to assist during the Holidays. We would like to extend a big Wanishi to Alleman Acres! It's people like the Allemans that make the Holidays extra special for our members in need. ■



An Update From the Tribal Domicile

Allan Barnes, Domicile Commissioner

Wëli Newiyal! Happy New Year! As we roll into 2025, let me take a moment to wish our Lenape family and friends the very best. In prior articles I have boasted about the Domicile's contributions (too many to list) and the national recognition we have earned. Our continued growth over our 12 plus years in this industry resulted in a record-setting 2024! For your information, the Tribal Domicile is a regulatory body of the Delaware Tribe that forms reinsurance companies, with over 5,000 formed to date. This is one reason why we invite members of our tribal leadership to attend our 2 main conferences each year. We are proud for them to observe our Domicile team in action.

That is why we invited our CFO Kendall Reith to attend the F&I Product conference in Tempe, AZ, which focuses on the latest trends, rules and regulations coming out of Washington, DC. In fact, because of the intensive 3-day class schedule, with well over 350 people in attendance, Kendall received continuing education credits toward her CPA designation. In fact, with little time to prepare Kendall did an excellent job filling in for me on our Reinsurance panel due to my falling ill.

So, in closing, Rhonda and Elaine from Tribal Support Services and our Domicile team, along with Chief KillsCrow, are already making plans for the 2025 Agent Summit in March at Las Vegas. We have a prominent booth with a meeting room that offers us the ability to have private conversations with our Insurance Managers and prospective new clients. We are excited about the Domicile's future and what it means to our Tribe. Chief KillsCrow's presence is always requested by the attendees and his support is beneficial for our Domicile. We look forward to continued growth so we may support the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

Thank you for allowing us this update and remember you can find out more by going to tribaldomicile.com or delaware-tribe.org. Don't forget to look for Lenape Reserve and Teton Trade Cloth by Lenape, our two retail outlets here in Bartlesville.

Wanishi ■



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 ■



The Elders Circle

Jana Roth

kikayàk òkànkwèphatuwàk

January 21—Elders Committee Meeting

February 25—Elders Committee Meeting

March 25—Elders Committee Meeting

April 22—Elders Committee Meeting

Upcoming 2025 Elder Committee Activities

The Elder Committee is excited to offer a variety of activities and classes in 2025!

Sign-ups and announcements will be posted to the DTI Elders Facebook page and on the Tribal Website or JOIN US at our monthly Elder Committee Meetings for the latest information!

February—Learn how to Peyote Stitch at a beading class taught by Jonni Donnell.

March—Make a special bead necklace to wear on May 5, the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. The class will be taught by Billie Jean Sheshey.

April—Family Fun Day! Join the fun and learn to play some traditional Native games.

May—Join us at the 60th Annual Delaware Pow Wow.

June—Learn about Forging & Backyard Medicine with Steve Donnell.

July / August—Watch for a special Show and Tell Cultural Presentation by Annette Ketchum.

September—Make a special bead necklace to wear on September 30, Orange Shirt Day, to remember and honor our children who were abused in Indian Boarding Schools. The class will be taught by Billie Jean Sheshey.

October—Paint and take. Learn to paint ceramics with Billie Jean Sheshey.

November—Basket-making. Learn to make a traditional Lenape basket with Billie Jean Sheshey and Jana Roth.

Delaware Elder News

The Delaware Elders hosted our first Lenape Fall Family Fun Day on October 5, 2024.

Families learned and played traditional Native games including Jack straws, Hand game, Dice game, Kokolesh, Story Stones, and Stickball.

The Delaware Elder Committee plans to hold the next Family Fun Day in April 2025.

On December 5th and 6th, 2024, the Elder Committee, in collaboration with the Cultural Education Department, hosted a basket-making class with Canadian Delaware tribal members Theresa Johnson and Sonya Whiteye from Moravian Town, Canada.

Painting Christmas Ornaments

On September 30, 2024, Delaware artist Billie Jean Sheshey taught a Christmas ornament class to Delaware elders for some pre-holiday fun!



Elder Committee Meetings

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 9:30 A.M. on the Tuesday before the Tribal Council meeting in the Family & Children's Services building, located

at Tribal Headquarters, 5100 Tuxedo Blvd, Bartlesville, OK.

If you can't make it in person, please join us on Zoom! To attend the meeting by Zoom, email your request to **delawareeldercouncil2023@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 **delawareeldercouncil2023@gmail.com**

Follow us on Facebook at the **dtieldercommittee**.

ALL Elder Delaware tribal members are invited to join us at our 2025 monthly meetings on Tuesday, January 21, February 25, March 25, and April 22 at 1:00 P.M.

Elder Committee Officers:

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



Black Ash Handbasket (left)

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 to **delawareeldercouncil2023@gmail.com**



Please send greetings cards to:

Delaware Tribal Member's Name: _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Code

Date of Birth: _____

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

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. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis by the Community Services Committee.

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.) Documentation required to establish membership and proof of death. Application must be submitted within one year from date of death.

Elder Prescriptions: Prescription medication assistance to Delaware Elders age 60 and over for Pharmacy and related costs. Elders may receive assis-

tance up to \$75.00 per month. Funds may be disbursed to vendors or reimburse applicants with proper documents and receipts.

Medical Assistance: Assistance up to \$300 for medical bills, including but not limited to out of pocket medical expenses, medical equipment (purchase or rental), Home health care, pharmacy, etc. Payment for services will be made to provider or Tribal member if paid receipts are included with other required documentation.

Emergency Assistance & Emergency Travel Assistance: Provides emergency assistance up to \$400 or emergency travel

assistance up to \$200. Funds are to be used for emergency situations as requested by Tribal member. Applicants must utilize other community resources if available.

Rental or Mortgage Assistance: Assistance up to \$400.00. Eviction notice and/or other documentation must be submitted with the application. Tribal member's name must be on the rental lease contract or mortgage bill.

Dental Assistance: Assistance up to \$300.00. Provides assistance for dental services including tooth repair, fillings, dentures or emergency services. Routine dental exams and cleanings are not covered.

Optical Assistance: Assistance up to \$200 for optical services to Delaware Tribal Members. Funds may be used for services, including glasses, exams or related. ■



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 attending college, for a degree, are eligible to apply. Currently, full-time students may apply for \$400 per semester for up to eight semesters and part-time students may apply for \$200 per semester up to 16 semesters. Semesters do not have to be consecutive. Applicants must submit all required documentation, including official transcripts and enrollment verification from the college or university. Students must maintain a 2.7 GPA (grade point average) in the last semester attended (high school, college, etc.). 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. Please mail or hand in your completed applications to the tribal offices at 5100 Tuxedo Blvd., Bartlesville, OK 74006

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



Stories Of Our Past—The Remarkable History Of The Delaware Tribe Of Indians

Anita Mathis, Librarian & Archives Manager

SECONDINE, ISAAC INTERVIEW

How Indians took up Claims in the Indian Territory days.

As told by Isaac Secondine.

Written by Alfred F. Hicks

April 23, 1936.

Any Indian person could go out and find him a place he liked and put claim to the land and the land was his, only he had to come up to certain requirements. These requirements were first, he would cut him a small tree down, smooth one side of it, write his name on it, also the date and the word "claim," drive it in the ground; then cut him four to six legs as though he was starting him a log house. This would hold the land thirty days. So, at the end of thirty days, he had to go back

and do other improvements, such as putting on a few more logs or plowing up some of the land.

If a person plowed as much as one acre, that would hold the land six months, without doing anything more to it. The amount of one of these claims of land was 1/4 Mile North 1/4 Miles South 1/4 Miles West and 1/4 Miles East; but if this land was fenced the owner would hold in addition of land all lend 1/4 Miles in all direction from the claim. Most of the fences in those days were made of rails and it was quite a job for a fellow to cut and make enough rails to fence in a Quarter of a mile square of land.

Still, if a person could fence in 640 acres of land, and start improvements on it, same was his, but it is easier to buy 640 acres of land now than it was to fence in 640 acres in those days.

I well remember my first claim I made. I was fourteen years old. I put up my stake and started my

log cabin. I sold this claim soon after I made it, sold it to Mr. Frank Hicks, a father of the boy that is writing this story, and this is a true copy of the contract I signed. It is owned by Hicks.

COODYS BLUFF, CHEROKEE NATION, FEB. 2, 1888
I HAVE THIS DAY SOLD
MY CLAIM TO FRANK
HICKS FOR 15.00 FIFTEEN
DOLLARS, THE CLAIM LAYS
BETWEEN THE ELM GROVE FARM
AND FILLMORE SECONDINE
FARM. SIGNED:
ISAAC SECONDINE
WITNESS:
JAMES CHANEY
FILLMORE X SEON-DINE

His Mark

This was the only abstract we had in those days for land sales; also, the only way we had in describing the location of land was by landmarks of some kind.

The Elm grove Farm mentioned in the above contract was just a few elm trees that had

grown up close. together near a claim that someone else had staked out.

A person could lose one of these claims if he did not do any improvement on it within thirty days from the time he made it, for another person could come along and look at the date on the stake and if nothing had been done, all he would have to do would be to drive him a stake in the ground and date it, pile up a few logs as tho' he was starting him a log house and then claim was his—that is what we called jumping claims.

People were strict in their land deals—more so than they are today. I remember one time my father had his claim all under fence and he found an old Negro man by the name of John Freeman cutting his timber and making rails out of it. So, father told him he was cutting his timber. They went and stepped it off from Father's fence and found that the man was on my father's land, so the man asked Fa-

ther what he wanted him to do. Father said, "Well just give me half of the rails and we will call it square," but not to cut any more timber on the land.

Mr. Isaac Secondine is a full-blood Delaware Indian and lives 6 miles NE of Nowata, Oklahoma. ■



Veterans Open Service Center

Steven Donnell

The Lenape Veterans Committee has opened a new Veterans Service Center in the Lenape Wellness Center. The Center will be run by tribal member Steven Donnell, Navy Veteran and American Legion Service Officer. We will perform VA claims filing through the American Legion. We

will provide services for all veterans, tribal and non-tribal alike. We will have emergency services for veterans in distress and their families. The Center is connected to several programs and groups within the state of Oklahoma, ranging from financial and housing, to women's and men's counseling and sobriety, along with intimate partners violence services.

Organizations we're connected with include OKDVA-Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, Tulsa Vets Center for counseling, the OK Developmental Disabilities Council, OK DHS, and Delaware Prevention Support Services (sobriety service).

The Center will be open on Tuesdays from 10–5. The Center is located at the Tribal Complex at 170 Barbara St. Bartlesville, Ok-

lahoma in the Tribal Wellness Center.

Email: 1lenapeila@gmail.com

Phone: (918) 337-6590 ext.

Steve.

Emergency phone (760) 401-2056 cell

Please come by and check out the Center and visit. Wanishi ■



AmeriCorps Senior Companion Program Now Available in Washington

Tonya Anna

The Delaware Tribe of Indians is proud to announce our partnership with Grand Gateway Economic Development Association (GGEDA) and the Senior Companion Program. AmeriCorps Seniors received a grant of \$540,000 from AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. The program has served Craig, Ottawa, and Rogers counties since 1986. Since then, the SCP has added Mayes, Delaware, Nowata and Washington County.

The program is about seniors helping seniors. It is a volunteer program for seniors over 55 years of age to assist seniors in their area that may need help. Seniors

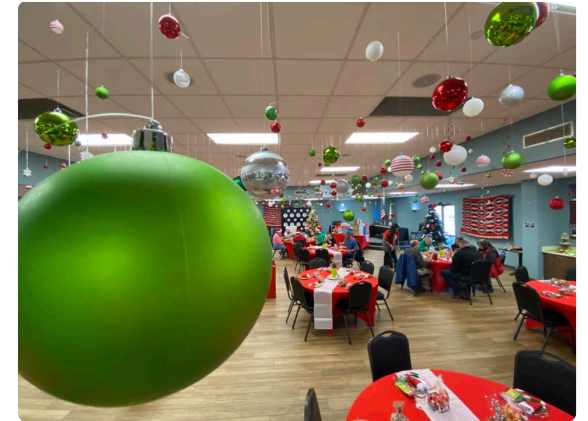
may need assistance with running errands or delivering bills. Others may just need someone to visit them due to loneliness or isolation. Other seniors may need someone to stay with them for short periods of time so that their caregiver(s) can run errands or go to the doctor.

Volunteers receive many benefits including tax-free stipend, mileage reimbursement, better health, a sense of purpose, and new friends. Volunteers typically focus on delivering groceries and assisting with meal preparation, completing simple chores, companionship, and respite time for family caregivers. As one of the volunteers stated, “There are so many seniors

that have no one. Just to go and see them makes them feel good. It’s the best feeling in the world.”

How can someone get involved with the program? Currently volunteers are being sought for Washington county. When the volunteers have been recruited, the program will begin to take applications for those in need of a volunteer. For more information about volunteering, call Jenny Allen at 918-244-5907 or Tonya Anna, Assistant Chief at 918-337-6531. Brochures about the program are also available at the Delaware Tribe of Indians Title VI office. You may also visit AmeriCorps.gov/Seniors. ■

Photos From Delaware Tribe of Indians Christmas Party



An Update From the Delaware Tribe of Indians Title VI Program

Archie Elvington

The Delaware Tribe of Indians Title VI Program served 3961 Elder meals this quarter, including 955 for Delaware tribal members. Through the months of September, October, and November we’ve had some very fun events such as visiting the Bearskin health fair in Miami, Oklahoma in September; hosting our own health fair called “Blue Hawaii” at the Dewey Fair Grounds in Dewey, Oklahoma in October; and having the Elder Thanksgiving meal

where the Elders remained seated and had their meal brought out to them in November. We also had a Fall picture day, a Halloween party, and an Elder wedding in our dining room. In the months ahead we have an Elder Christmas party and other various events planned. ■



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 March 15, 2025 for the April 2025 issue. Submissions may be mailed, faxed or hand delivered to the tribal office or emailed to din@delawaretribe.org. Paid advertisements are available; for rates, please contact the editor.

Editorials, guest columns, and reader's letters reflect the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *DIN*, its staff, or the tribal government. Editorials that are

intended to be published in the *DIN* must concern tribal issues and should not be statements of general political beliefs. They must be signed by the author and include the author's address. The *DIN* does not guarantee publication upon submission of comments.

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

Editorial Board:

Dana Murrell, Tonya Anna, Emily Haney, Celeste Amadon

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



Greetings from Lenape Early Learning Center!

Emily Harker, Lenape Early Learning Center Family Services Coordinator

We proudly announce that the Lenape Early Learning Center has received the community vote for Bartlesville Best in Choice for Best Child-care and Preschool for 2024. Lenape Early Learning Center opened in the summer of 2021 as the Delaware Tribe took back ownership. Our program has a licensed capacity of 90 children from 6 weeks to five years old. We operate on two grants: Early Head Start and Child Care. As part of our EHS grant, we must meet specific criteria to maintain our five-star center standard. We take DHS, Tribal, and Private Pay. Currently, we work with six tribes for subsidies, including Delaware. Almost 90% of the children enrolled at LELC are native, a goal we have set for ourselves. Also, we are a part of the Child and Adult Food Care Program, which helps us create healthy and nutritious meals for our classrooms. LELC will provide developmental, vision, and hearing screenings at no cost to our families. Our teachers create an intentional lesson plan cater-

ing to each child's developmental level and learning style. LELC also provides learning experiences by teaching children and teachers numbers, animals, colors, songs, and more in the Lenape language. At Lenape Early Learning Center, we provide a relationship-based philosophy with our teachers and children and, importantly, our families. Our families at LELC can trust that we will provide quality care while incorporating culture into our curriculum that children and families can take home and incorporate. You can find us on Facebook to see all our fun activities and submit an inquiry to learn about our waitlist. ■



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Carbon Monoxide Dangers

Did you know?



Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is often called "the invisible killer."

As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart!



Install and maintain CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of CO.



Make sure **vents** for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace **are clear** of snow and other debris.



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Did you know?



1 in every 6 home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths involves heating equipment.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart!



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Did you know?



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart!



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source.



Check Out the Tribal Website

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

Go to: www.delawaretribe.org ■



Intern Brings Mental Health Support to Delaware Tribal Complex

Emily Vass

In every issue of the newspaper, I see Assistant Chief Anna's call for volunteers. I answered that call last August by requesting permission to come on as an intern. I am thrilled to report what the last few months on campus have looked like, as I logged over 400 hours with our community. This has been an exciting experience to bring mental health support services to the Delaware Tribal Complex, with a focus on making services more accessible to everyone. Over the course of the last five months I have been able to connect with a lot of individuals and families to hear their concerns. I am so grateful for the warm welcome that I have received from the Elders Committee, Prevention, and Veterans Services. All leaders have reported they are excited to have support and encouragement for their departments through this internship.

First a thank you to Mr. Rodney Loonsfoot, Ret. USMC and member of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. He serves as the Director of Native American Toys for Tots. I was able to coordinate the connection with Ms. Dana Murrell who was fantastic at or-

ganizing and encouraging so many to help unpack, re-organize, and re-distribute pallets of toys for many of our tribal community and others throughout NE Oklahoma. My daughter Alyssa and I were so excited to be able to assist with this project as we helped to work out some of the logistics. Many were blessed in this joint effort.

After visiting with over 40 Elders individually, I have heard many of their concerns and heartbreaks. I look forward to working with the Elders Committee to see how we can implement workshops and programs to assist our Elders to feel more supported and encouraged in the new year. With the new Senior Companion program this is a fantastic time to join our volunteer efforts and truly connect. Along with case management and counseling services on campus, I am excited to be putting together several workshops just for our Elders based on the topics they have requested. Based off my survey they are looking forward to discussing how to better connect with our youth, how to address nutritional concerns, what to do until help ar-

rives, veteran and caregiver support, and deathcare support. Mr. Steve Donnell will be co-hosting Until Help Arrives and First Aid/CPR/AED classes with me. Dates will be announced in January.

I'll also be looking forward to supporting Prevention Services in the spring as well. This past fall I was able to assist in marketing culturally relevant support services like Talking Circle to our neighboring counties. This was done by educating and sharing this group to local counseling agencies and community support offices. I'm looking forward to how Ms. Sherri Sam-Chouteau will utilize my skills to support her office and her vision for the growing program she is developing. In an effort to best support her, I have enrolled in several White Bison trainings.

Keep watching the Facebook page for updates on our spring schedule as I will be hosting our first Traveling Turtle Sibshop! This is a workshop for children of special needs/medically fragile siblings. If there is a need, I would love to host an Adult Traveling Turtle Sibshop as well, so don't be shy to share your excitement for this virtual workshop. I have also connected with the lo-

cal non-profit Dynamic Independence to assist in more inclusion awareness education and events for our community.

In conclusion, as an out of state tribal member I understand how disappointing it can be to feel disconnected when there are limited opportunities for connection despite advances in technology. In an effort to combat this, I will be



hosting several workshops and support groups online. Families and individuals are encouraged to reach out and ask to be placed on the notification list or to suggest a topic of discussion. You can contact me at Emily.Vass@improvinglivescounseling.com or (850) 844-6798. ■



Delaware Tribe Employees Run Floats in Area Christmas Parades, Win 1st Place in Non-Commerical Division in Dewey Parade

Tonya Anna

A big acknowledgment to all who participated in the Christmas parades and those who helped decorate the float. It warms my heart to see spouses and children get involved with this event even when there are several places where the Tribe was present. Bartlesville, Caney, Dewey, and Coffeyville had some amazing parades and if I must say, we had an amazing crew representing which included: Enrollment, Food Pantry, LELC, Wellness Center, Procurement and EP Department. Maintenance is known for going the extra mile when assisting with decorating for the Holidays here on campus. It's nice when we can give that extra touch during the different seasons but when it comes to hanging lights outside, putting up trees and decorations then turning around and take them down is a lot of work and doesn't go unnoticed! ■

Elder Interview with Connie Falleaf

What are some of your fondest memories from your childhood?

My dad loved being outdoors no matter the weather. If anyone complained about the heat, or cold, he would grin and say, "It's just right!" He loved the water and taught me how to swim. He taught my brother and I archery. And he could tell the best stories of his childhood!

While on a trip, I was maybe 4, or 5, years old. We stayed at a big hotel and there were several men sitting on the front porch in rocking chairs while listening to the national political convention on the radio.

As I ran up the large staircase one of the men stopped rocking, leaned over towards me and asked "Little girl, are you a Republican, or a Democrat?" My mother said I replied without hesitation "I'm an Indian" and kept on going. My dad smiled.

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

My dad took us to visit Gnadenhutten and Schoenbrun Village, both in Ohio, so we could learn a part of our tribal history because it wasn't taught at our public school. He also told us about some experiences when he was in residential school.

What advice would you like to give our youth?

I would encourage our Delaware people, elders and youth, to learn the actual history of our people and to share those truths to one another. Our history is actually our identity and no one can take that from us, not ever. We are Lenape! ■





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.

Talking Circle

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

Lenape Wellness & Fitness Center



Monday-Friday
Hours- 8am-5pm

Delaware & Cherokee- Free
Other tribal- \$10 a month
Non-tribal- \$20 a month
Or Daily Fee- \$2

No children under the age of 12 allowed on the equipment.
No running or playing in gym.

Contact for more information
Wellness Director
Cody Blackmon
Phone: 918-337-6586
Email: cblackmon@delawaretribe.org
5100 Tuxedo Blvd.
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74006



Lenape Early Learning Center

Delaware Tribe of Indians

**BUY NATIVE,
SUPPORT LOCAL**

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

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CALL FOR HOURS 918-337-6590

Visit www.lenapereserve.com to shop online!



Indigenous Peoples' Day Event in Philly Mixes History, Learning, and Some Fun

A riverside celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day informed, educated, and moved attendees

Kiersten Tate

October 14, 2024

History, care, and joy — a surprising mixture — were shared Monday at Shackamaxon, also known as Penn Treaty Park, on a gorgeous fall day during the eighth annual celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day there. The event, put on by Indigenous Peoples' Day Philly, Inc., honored the Lenape tribe and Indigenous communities originating or residing in the Northeast of the U.S. Indigenous Peoples' Day commemorates the history and legacy of native tribes within the U.S. The holiday is celebrated on what had previously been marked as Columbus Day, with the intent to decenter the perspective of European explorers like Christopher Columbus and other historical figures who sought to destroy Native cultures.

Before honoring other tribes, IPD Philly introduced visitors to the Lenape, or Delaware, tribe, whose ancestral lands span southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and southern New York.

Curtis Zunigha (Lenape Delaware), co-director of the Lenape Center in New York, spoke to the audience about the relationship between the Lenape and Quaker settlers who arrived here initially, as well as the shift from peace to strife, and the colonists dubbing the Lenape as the Delaware tribe.

To recenter the joyous aspect of the day, Zunigha led the Bean Dance, a Lenape tradition that illustrates the growth of bean plants. Many children were happy to participate, and adults were welcome to join in.

Bart "Standing Elk" Cartwright was one of those adults. The self-employed Lenape carpenter believes that the event is a sign of progress, from focusing only on the narratives of settlers from the past to highlighting the survival of the tribes across the Americas.

During the performances and speeches, people from various organizations educated attendees on the perspectives of Native groups from the early days of American settlements to more recent events like residential boarding schools. Joy Frazier and Sherry Wack interacted with people who wanted to learn about the Carlisle Indian School, the first residential boarding school, which brutally assimilated Indigenous children into American culture. It led to the creation of 30 more residential schools in the U.S. More recently, it has led to educational resources to explain the school and reckon with its impact.

Overall, the event helped IPD Philly accomplish its goal: encouraging people to honor the first people to inhabit the land and connect members of different Native groups.

Reprinted from Billypenn at WHYY

<https://billypenn.com/2024/10/14/indigenous-day-celebration-treaty-park-shackamaxon-2024/> ■



Curtis Zunigha, a performer from the Lenape Center, taught kids the traditional bean dance at the Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration at Penn Treaty Park in Philadelphia on October 14, 2024. (Kimberly Paynter/WHYY)



(Right) Bart "Standing Elk" Cartwright is a member of the Lenape tribe and part of the Turtle Clan signifying the original people of the Philadelphia area. (Kimberly Paynter/WHYY)

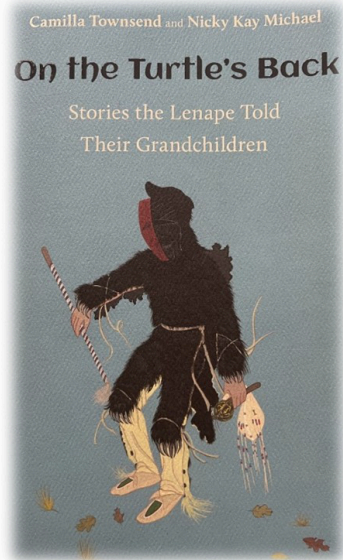
On the Turtle's Back: Stories Lenape Told Their Grandchildren

Nicky Kay Michael, PhD

This article expresses gratitude to the Elders and their families for collaborating with me from the 1990s to now. Kehëla Wanishi. These interviews contributed to my MA dissertation at Oklahoma State University, which focused on Lenape women in a transitional culture. More recently, they also informed my book, *On the Turtles Back: Stories Lenape Told Their Grandchildren*, published by Rutgers Press, 2023. On December 12, 2024, the New Jersey Humanities Council awarded Dr. Townsend and me for this book. All royalties are sent to the Delaware Tribe Elders Committee.

The book came from the efforts of Lenape traditionalists in the early 1900s. In 2019, Dr. Townsend informed the Delaware Tribal Council of her intention to write a book about Lenape stories based on her research of Mark Harrington's notes, which he collected from Julius and Min-

nie Fouts and Charles and Susan Elkhair. As some of you descendants of these traditionalists know, these Lenape'ok were deeply committed to preserving the Lenape spirituality and culture. They wanted to ensure that our stories and traditions continued. Lenape culture lives on in the memories preserved in the



letters the Fouts and Elkhairs sent to Harrington.

When I informed Dr. Townsend about the interviews conducted in the 1990s, we felt this would be an ideal way to illustrate how stories continue to influence our present culture. Many Elders we interviewed had some recollections of the Big House and Doll Dance. Still, they primarily remembered family and community aspects of Lenape's old culture and language spanning over ten thousand years. They shared cultural and familial memories, along with some emotional personal stories. We became confident in our choices about what to make public and hope that what we presented reflects the enduring love within Lenape communities. ■

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

Mary Lou Burks



August 19, 1939 –
December 13, 2024

Mary Lou (Falleaf) Burks, 85, of Copan, OK passed away peacefully on December 13, 2024. Mary Lou was born on August 19, 1935, in Claremore, OK to Alona (Falleaf) Mathis. Mary Lou was raised in the Copan area where she spent her childhood and built many cherished memories. Mary Lou married Bill Burks on July 10, 1970. They made their home in Copan with their 4 sons. Mary Lou was a member of the Delaware Tribe. She had a passion for making beautiful regalia for her family and friends. She also enjoyed collecting turtles and spending time with her family. Mary Lou was preceded in death by her mother, Alona, sister, Carolyn Dobbs and several family members. Mary Lou is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Bill, of the home. She leaves behind her sons: Micheal and wife Martha of Copan, OK; Farrell of Tulsa, OK; Billy Ray and wife Sandy of Azle, TX and Bobby of Bartlesville, OK; 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren and several cousins and extended family members. ■



Charles "Chuck" Franklin Miller



April 17, 1953 –
July 21, 2024

Nowata, Oklahoma

Charles "Chuck" Franklin Miller, 71, of Nowata, Oklahoma, passed away at Ascension St John Nowata, on July 21, 2024. Chuck was born on April 17, 1953, in Nowata, Oklahoma, to Herman T. Miller Jr. and Anna Luella (Parret) Miller.

He grew up in the Nowata area, graduating from Nowata High School in 1971. During Chuck's senior year, playing football with the 1970-1971 Nowata Ironmen football team, the team won the Oklahoma State Championship. Chuck played center for the Nowata Ironmen and was very proud of the Ironmen's Championship title. He went on to attend Rogers State College in Claremore, OK, receiving an associate degree in education. On June 30, 1973, Chuck married the love of his life, Cindy Bell at the Hillside Christian Church in Nowata. The couple made their home in Nowata and shared over 51 years together before Chuck's passing.

Chuck began his career at the age of 18, driving a concrete truck for his family's business. He went on to drive a concrete truck for Bartlesville Redi Mix. He then worked for 21 years at the Port of Catoosa, at UmiCore, working as a material handler. At the time of

his passing, Chuck worked at the Cherokee Nation as the facility maintenance person. Chuck was also a volunteer fire department member at the Nowata Fire Department, before retiring after 20 years.

Chuck had several interests which included hunting and fishing, traveling, and antiques. Chuck was friendly and told the best stories. He enjoyed visiting with people, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. One of Chuck's favorite past times to get his family out of the house was to take the family on wildlife drives, where the family would keep track of what animals and things they would encounter in nature on their rides. He will be missed by everyone that knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Herman and Anna Miller; his brother: Tony Miller, and his son: Curtly Miller.

Chuck is survived by his wife: Cindy Miller of Nowata, OK; his children: Chris Miller of Nowata, OK, Adam Miller and wife, Emily of Independence, KS, Lori Miller of Nowata, OK, Sarah Franklin and husband, Chris of Sallisaw, OK, and Ashly Guthrie of Nowata, OK; his grandchildren: Cade Miller, Morgan Miller, Lane Swepston and wife, Destinee, Emily Reece, Isabelle and Ava Guthrie, and Cash Franklin on the way, his brother: Ted Miller and his sister: Sharon Laughlin, along with many other family members and friends.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, July 27, 2024, at the Benjamin Funeral Service Chapel at 10:00 A.M. with Pastor Larry Osborn officiating. Interment followed at the Secondine Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Benjamin Funeral Service. Online condolences may

be left at www.honoringmemoriesnowata.com.

To order memorial trees or send flowers to the family in memory of Charles "Chuck" Franklin Miller, please visit our flower store. ■



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. ■



Birth Announcement: Mason James Joonas

Mason James Joonas, born May 30, 2024, 7 lbs, 19" long. A son to Delaney (Seely) Joonas, Grandson of James Seely and a Great Grandson of the late Walter Seely and a Great Great Grandson of the late Eva (Parker) Seely. ■



Upcoming Events

Tribal Council Meeting Schedule

4th Wednesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. Meetings at Tribal Complex at 5100 Tuxedo Blvd in Forsythe Hall.

January 22
February 26
March 26
April 23

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.

January 21
February 25
March 25
April 22

Cultural Preservation

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

January 7
February 4
March 4
April 1

Veterans Committee

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

January 21
February 25
March 25
April 22

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:

January 16
March 20

At Main Campus—Tribal Council Chambers:

February 20
April 17

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.

January 21
February 18
March 18
April 22

Others

War Mothers

2nd Monday of every month at 6:00 P.M. in FCS Conference Room.

January 13
February 10
March 10
April 14

Prevention Support Services

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

Spring Gathering

April 12, 2025

In collaboration with the Environmental Department: Operation Clean House

April 12, 2025

Location TBD.

Rose Pavluk Memorial Scholarship Deadline

February 15, 2025

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
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



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) ■

Lenape Language Report

Jim Rementer, Director, Lenape Language Project

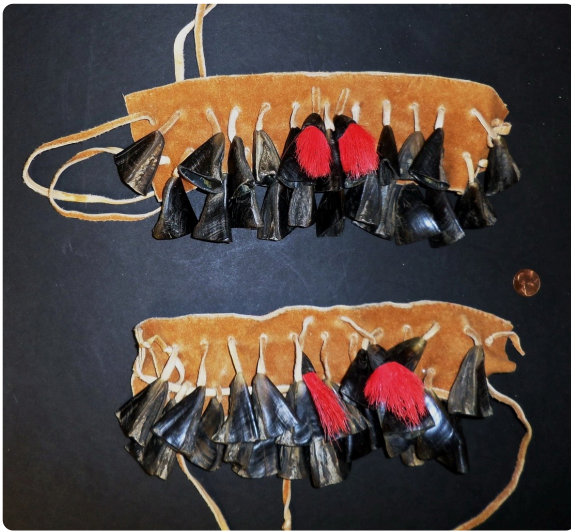
Notice: The Delaware Indian calendar for 2025 is now available on the tribal website <https://delawaretribe.org/>.

You can download your copy and print all the pages at once or print one month at a time as needed. For a wall calendar we suggest using 8.5 x 14 inch (legal size) paper.

Delaware Items:

The items pictured below are Shuhwikahsha, Deer hoof rattles worn by men dancers just below the knees. In more recent times that are often replaced by bells,

What's Available Online:



Stories Told in English: Some of the stories were only written in English but they were told by Lenape people. Some were written by people who studied with the Lenape and they only wrote down the English versions of the stories. We have been adding these to the tribal website and there are now about fifty-five of them and they can be found here:

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

What's New: A number of words and sentences continue to be added to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. Work

on the dictionary itself continues and a few things have been added and others have been corrected. One of the main things done at this time is to add Lenape stories or news items that were written only in English. You can find these by going to the tribal website and scroll down a bit until you see Culture and Language and click on that and more links will pop-up. Look for the one with Mike Pace's picture on it and click on that and you will see about 55 stories have been added. The latest ones are: Fire Engine, Friendly Indians, Push, and Fallen Leaf Lake.

Revived: Here are the Lenape Word-a-Day calendars for December and January 2025. The downloadable calendar is also posted on the Tribal website with a calendar for that month. They will continue to be posted at the beginning of each month. There are sound files for each of these words and they are in the Lenape Talking Dictionary:

<https://www.talk-lenape.org/> ■

LENAPE DECEMBER 2024 WORDS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 miltëwakàn gift	2 këntis candy	3 shapwëlénchëhun ring	4 chichànkw mirror	5 lekhikàn book	6 kèlak clock	7 kèlakhun brooch
8 ehükwenk necklace	9 tëpinxkëpi bracelet	10 tëpinxkëpia bracelets	11 chipàhko shoes	12 lokèns dish	13 lokènsa dishes	14 ànixkàman Indian brooch
15 chikëiët chocolate	16 aonahsën turquoise	17 hèmpës dress, shirt	18 hèmpsa dresses, shirts	19 paènt cup	20 paènta cups	21 ahshikàna socks, stockings
22 kèkw wampum bead	23 kèkok wampum beads	24 mustunami kiss me	25 Mèli Kèlëshmësh Merry Christmas	26 nkispiwi I am full	27 mènutès purse	28 mènutètèt little purse
29 tèxtakàn cupboard	30 òtaès flower	31 òtaèsàk flowers	Wèli Newiyal Happy New Year	Kichiluwàn "Real Winter" December		

LENAPE JANUARY 2025 WORDS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ENIKWSI KISHUX GROUND SQUIRREL MONTH		1 Wèli Newiyal Happy New Year	2 wine it snows	3 kun ice or snow on ground	4 nushhükòn icicle	5 kshiwine it snows hard
6 mèxate deep snow	7 shèxkanimihèle it is hailing	8 tupàn there is frost	9 tupànu it has frost on it	10 tupànuxwe he walks on frost	11 opèlùkòn a white frost	12 kunapu ice water
13 aon it is foggy	14 sukèlan it rains	15 niskèlan it drizzles	16 aohèlan a misty rain	17 alèmèlan it begins to rain	18 pèpètèlan it rains now and then	19 sasukèlan slow gentle rain
20 sukèlàtpi rain water	21 alalan it stops raining	22 pàxkèlan it briefly stopped raining	23 òxèmu it is moonlight	24 tùkwsì kishux full moon	25 wèski kishux new moon	26 wsike sunset
27 kishux sun -or- moon	28 piskewèni kishux moon	29 kshinkwehèle it is sunrise	30 pètàpàn approaching daylight	31 opàn it is daylight	32 wèlànte sunshiny day	33 compiled by Jim Rementer

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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

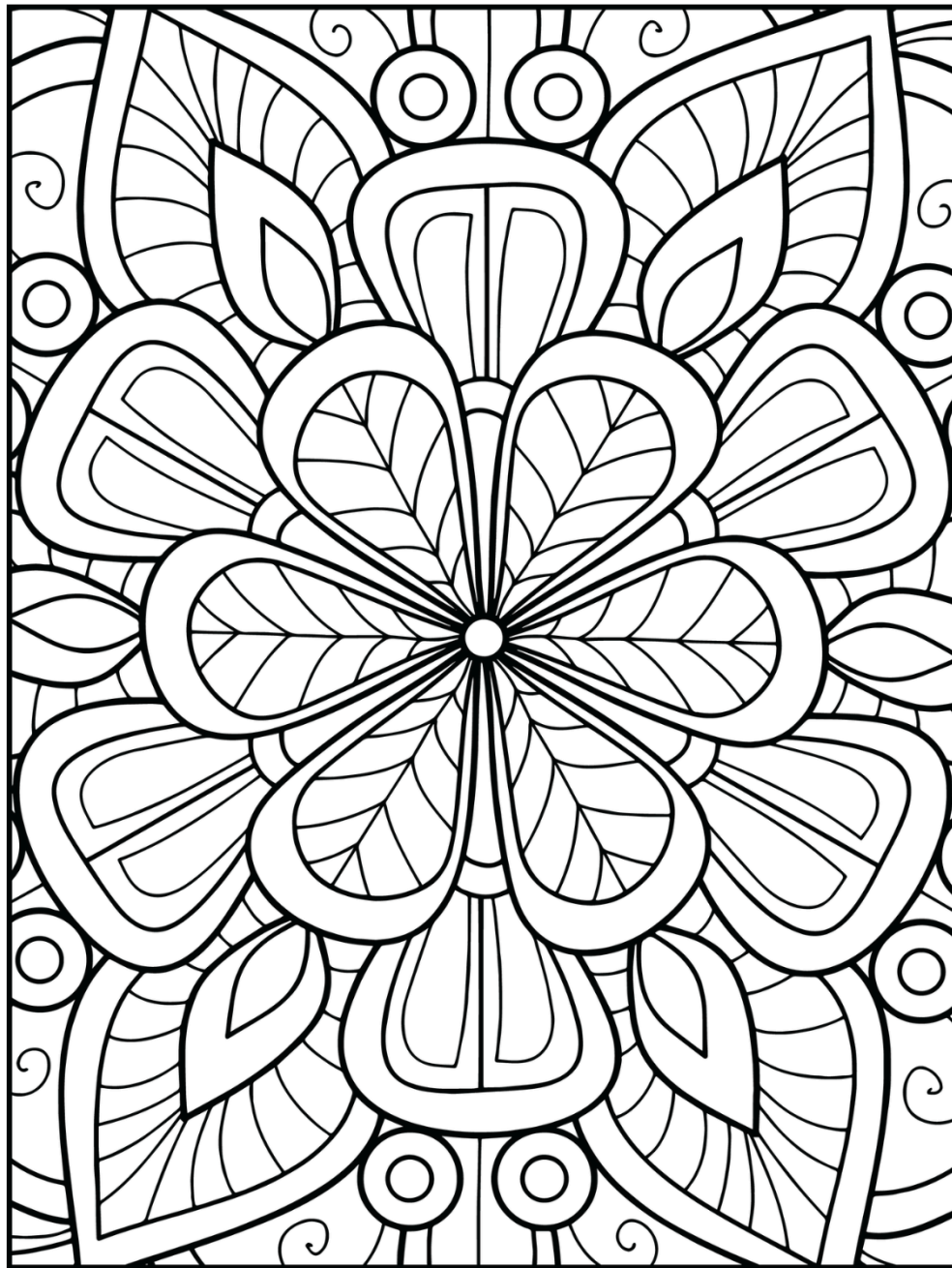
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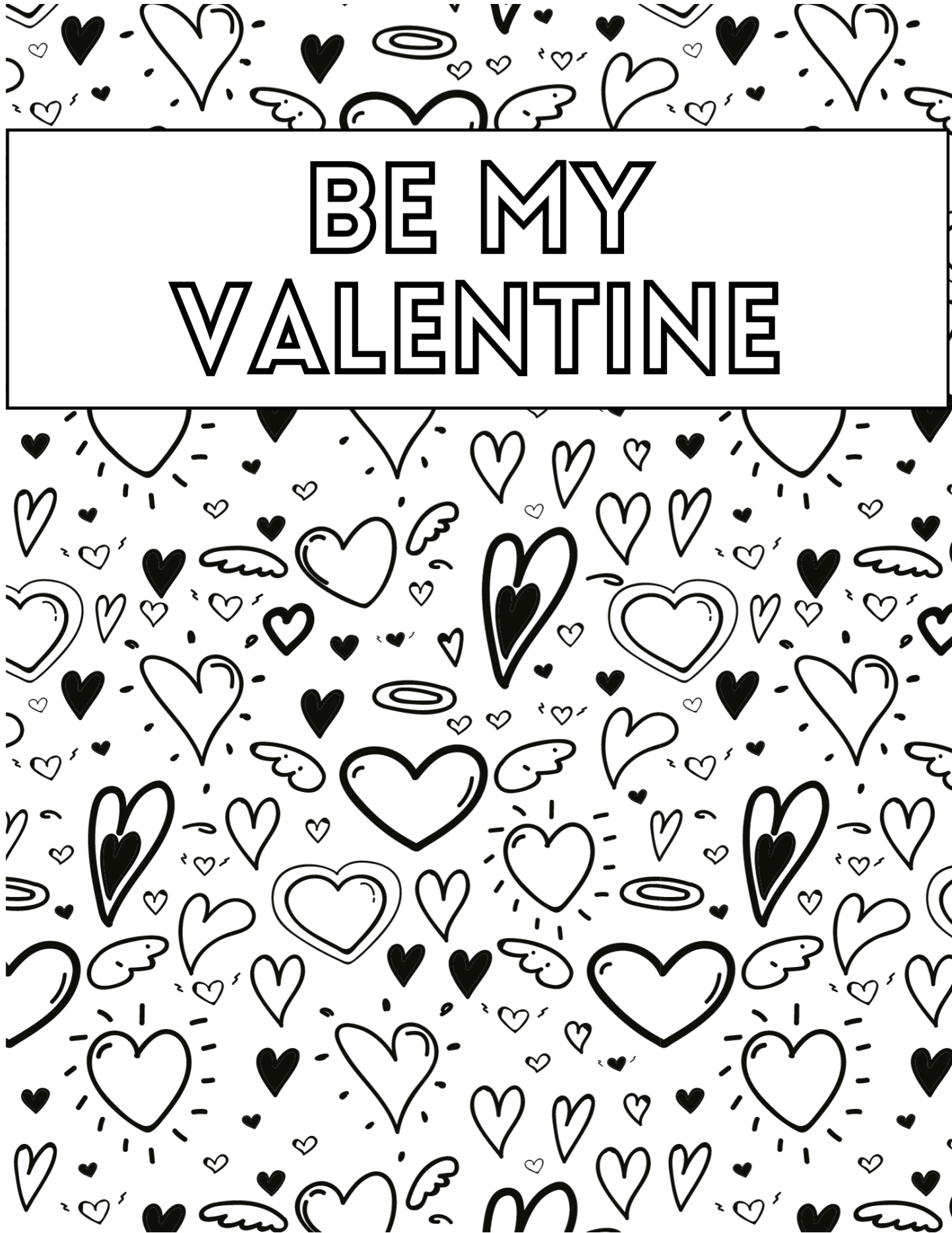
601 High St
Caney, KS
67333
Phone:
620-879-2189

**24 HOUR CRISIS LINE:
918-331-7349**

Lenape Youth Fun Pages

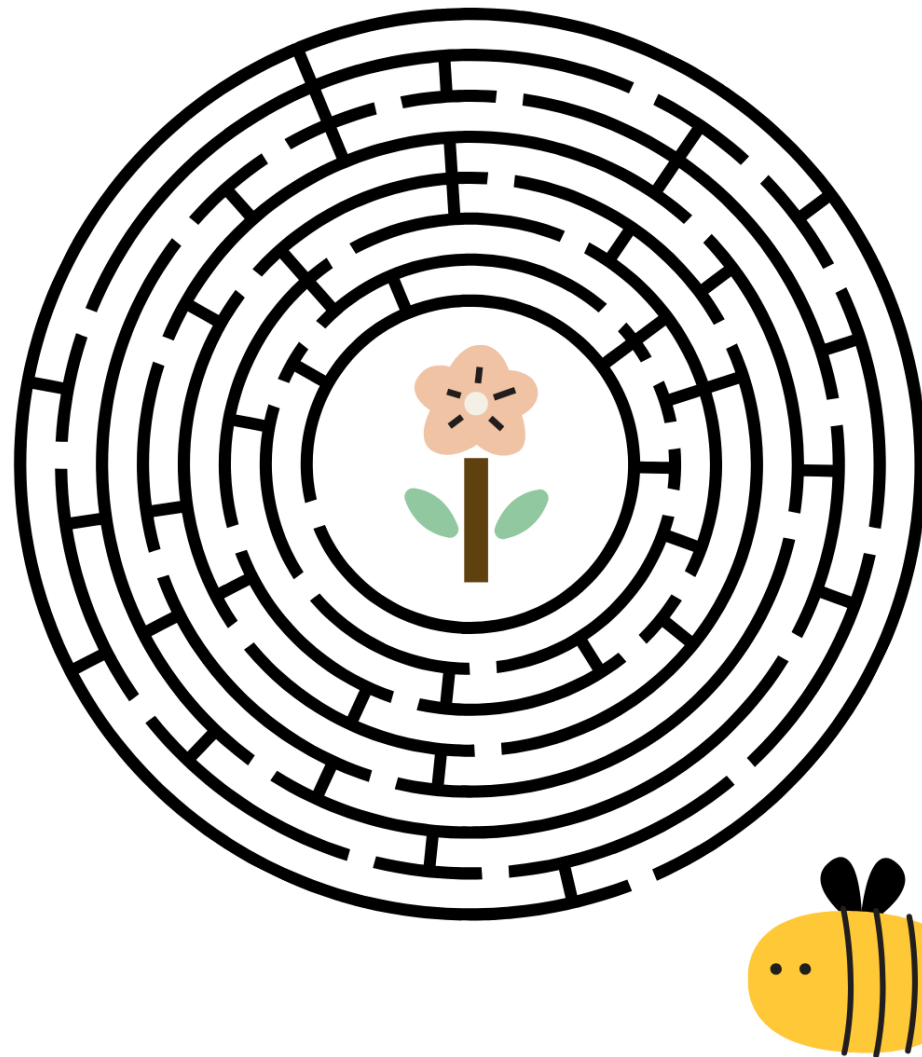
Mandala Coloring





SPRING MAZE PUZZLE

Help the bee find the way to the flower.



Lenape Reserve December Updates: Basket Giveaways, New Hours, Layaway Options, and Fresh Inventory

Amanda Scott

This holiday season, Lenape Reserve is celebrating with a host of exciting updates, including monthly basket giveaways, new store hours, the introduction of layaway options, and a fresh influx of products, from regalia supplies to unique local goods. Whether you're shopping for the holidays or planning for the new year, Lenape Reserve is ready to meet your needs with a variety of updates designed for customer convenience and excitement.

New Hours and Days of Operation Starting in 2025

After the first of the year, Lenape Reserve will be changing its hours to better serve the community. Starting 2025, the store will be open Monday through Saturday, with hours of operation from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M. Monday through Friday and 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Saturdays. The new schedule will provide added flexibility, making it easier for customers to shop and explore all the store has to offer.

"We know our customers have busy lives, and these new hours will allow us to better accommodate everyone's schedules," said a spokesperson for Lenape Re-

serve. "We're looking forward to seeing more people throughout the week, and we're confident that the new times will make shopping with us even more convenient."

Layaway Available

Lenape Reserve has layaway options for customers who prefer to pay for their purchases over time. This service makes it easier than ever to get the items you want for the holidays or beyond without the pressure of paying all at once. The layaway program is available for a variety of items, so stop by the store for more details and to take advantage of this offering.

Expanding Regalia Supplies

Lenape Reserve is proud to continue offering a wide range of regalia supplies, with new products constantly being added to the inventory. From materials for custom creations to ready-made regalia items, the store is a go-to destination for those in need of quality and culturally significant attire. These items are regularly updated to ensure customers have access to the most current selection, and the team is always available to assist with finding what you need.

New Arrivals Every Few Weeks

If you've visited Lenape Reserve recently, you may have noticed that there's always something new on the shelves. The store is committed to introducing new items every few weeks, including handmade crafts, local goods, and seasonal items. Whether you're looking for the perfect gift, a special treat for yourself, or unique home decor, you can always count on Lenape Reserve to offer fresh arrivals that reflect the community's rich culture and heritage.

Visit Lenape Reserve This Holiday Season

From giveaways to layaway options and an ever-growing selection of regalia supplies and new products, Lenape Reserve is the place to shop this holiday season and beyond. Be sure to mark your calendar for the new year's hours, and take advantage of the variety of options available for your convenience.

For more information about the basket giveaway, updated hours, layaway options, and the latest arrivals, visit Lenape Reserve in-store or online at lenapereserve.com.

Smithsonian Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design Opens Exhibit Featuring Lenape History

Curtis Zunigha

On November 1 in New York City, the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design opened a major exhibit called Making Home. Lenape Center's Executive Director and Delaware Tribal member Joe Baker curated a Lenape exhibit called "Welcome To Territory" featuring traditional turkey feather capes. Attending the opening were Chief Brad Killscrow, Tribal Elders Michael Pace and Curtis Zunigha, and Operation Eagle Singers from Bartlesville. ■



Curtis Zunigha, Brad Killscrow, Joe Baker, Mike Pace



Delaware Tribe Cultural Education Department Hosts Successful Winter Programs

Jeremy Johnson, Director of Cultural Education

As the Delaware Tribe Cultural Education Department continues its mission of preserving and sharing Lenape culture, we are thrilled to report on the success of our recent winter programs.

On November 22 and 23, we hosted a Puzzle Pouch class, which saw 10 participants come together to learn the art of creating traditional Lenape pouches. Puzzle pouches, first seen in our communities around the turn of the 19th century, are small, intricately designed pouches that were often employed to store personal or sacred items. They are a unisex pouch carried by both men and women, and they are called Puzzle Pouches/Purses because it is a puzzle to open them. By recreating these pouches, participants not only gained valuable skills but also connected deeply with this traditional art form. This hands-on class allowed attendees to engage with an important aspect of our cultural heritage while fostering a sense of community and creativity.

Following the success of the Puzzle Pouch class, a Basket Weaving Class was held on December 6 and 7. We were honored to host Theresa Johnson who is a citizen of Eelünaapéewi Lakhéewiit (Moraviantown) which is one of our sister nations in Canada. Theresa traveled from Canada with a few others to teach the class. This event brought together 12 participants who learned the intricate skills of basket weaving. Each attendee crafted two different types of baskets: sweetgrass baskets, known for their beautiful fragrance and symbolic significance, and black ash reed baskets, which hold a special place in Lenape tradition. The participants were excited to take home their creations, tangible reminders of their connection to our shared heritage.

These classes mark the culmination of a busy and meaningful season for the Cultural Education Department. Earlier this year, we conducted a series of cultural programs in our homelands, including Pennsbury Manor, PA, Paterson, NJ, and Philadelphia, NJ. These events not only celebrated Lenape traditions but also deepened connections with our ancestral lands and communities.

Of particular significance was the solemn and sacred work of reinterring 56 ancestors at Pennsbury Manor on October 28, 2024. This effort represents our ongoing commitment to honoring those who came before us, removing them from museum and university shelves, and ensuring they rest in peace within our homelands.

The Delaware Tribe Cultural Education Department extends a heartfelt thanks to all participants, partners, and supporters who made these programs possible. As we look to the new year, we remain dedicated to providing opportunities to learn, connect, and preserve our vibrant culture for generations to come. ■

Cultural Program at Pennsbury Manor



Puzzle Pouch Class



Basket Weaving Class

