Tribal Newsletter - November 2026

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Update on the Grinter Chapel Renovation
- Our New Webmaster
- Ground Penetrating Radar Project
- The Thanksgiving Address
- 2026 Year-End Tax Planning
- Donations to Your Tribe
- November 2026 Lenape Language Lesson
- November 2026 Coloring Book Page

Please email me at Ldavid@kansasdelaware.org if I may answer any of your questions or concerns.

Update on the Grinter Chapel Renovation

The Hispanic congregation that has been using the lower-level of our Chapel two days each week for the last four weeks is very happy with the Chapel and our arrangement. As hoped, they plan to help us with several projects on our “to do” list.

One project that the Tribal Council wanted to accomplish prior to cold weather was the sealing of our asphalt parking lot. We were blessed with good warm weather on November 8th and 9th. The congregation used all three of our new exterior hose connections to power washed the entire driveway. Next, they used many gallons of crack filler and asphalt patch to fill the cracks. Starting at 9:00 on Monday November 9th, approximately 12 to 15 members of the congregation began applying 5-gallon buckets of asphalt sealer. We started with 20 of the 5-gallons buckets, but the final total was probably 50 to 60 of the 5-gallon buckets. The last bucket was not applied until about 7:30 at night. A professional asphalt company could not have done a better job!

Please see the picture of the Chapel with the resurfaced parking lot.

We need to have approximately 37 parking spaces, including three handicapped, painted on the parking lot. However, colder weather may require us to wait until Spring 2027 to accomplish that project.

During the next week, Jeff Kirby will complete installing the required Grab Bars in the upstairs restroom and Kelly and Kevin Figge will install the required drywall in the closet near the Fellowship Hall.

At that time, we will ask Wyandotte County Inspection Department to conduct the final inspection. Then they should issue the Tribe the final and complete Occupancy Permit.

On November 10, 2026, the contractor installed the new natural gas line from the main gas line near Swartz Road to the outside of the Chapel.

Please remember that your Tribal Council will need approximately $250,000 of additional funds to complete the renovation of the Entry Foyer, Sanctuary, Choir Loft, Belltower Room, Crying Room and two Anti Rooms.

Donations from our Tribal members will be required to complete these projects.



Our New Webmaster

We are very pleased to announce that your Tribe has a wonderful new Webmaster!!

Tori Country contacted the Tribal Council soon after receiving our October Newsletter.

She has already had a conference call with Kristine Strasburger, Chairperson of our Technology Committee, and is starting the process of making the necessary updates to our website.

The Tribal Council is very pleased to have Tori on your team!

The following is her bio:

Tori Country is a proud Kansas Delaware tribal member and sixth-generation descendant of Betsey Taylor-Ziegler (No. 134), through her father, Stephen Koerner.

Born in Kentucky, Tori is the second eldest of her father's four children. She spent several years living in Florida before relocating to North Carolina in the summer of 2026.

Tori graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management. Her experience at

WeightWatchers sparked an interest in digital content and marketing, which has since grown into her professional career. Today, she works for a wellness company, where she contributes to digital marketing, social media, and content strategy.

Tori and her husband, a medically retired military veteran, have been together for over a decade and are raising their two boys, Emerson (8) and Greyson (4). Outside of work and family life, Tori enjoys getting lost in a good book and can often be found curled up with her
latest read.

Tori looks forward to serving the Kansas Delaware Tribe as Webmaster. She views this opportunity as a meaningful way to give back through her skills, time, and dedication to a
Tribe she is incredibly proud to belong to. She hopes to use her experience to help strengthen the Tribe's digital presence, share its story, and keep its community connected.

Ground Penetrating Radar Project

Amy Van de Riet, Associate Professor of Architecture at Kansas University is helping with a project to do Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) at the Grinter Cemetery.

We hope to start by having the grass in the Cemetery mowed on November 23, 2026, to where the grass would only be about 1.5 to 2.0 inches tall. The individual doing the mowing would catch all of the grass clippings and haul them away.

Next, we are attempting to get permission from the Wyandotte Fire Marshall and Wyandotte Department of Air Quality to burn the remaining grass.

Then, in Mid-December a graduate student from Kansas University would conduct the Ground Penetrating Radar project. The first process would be to use the radar to a depth of about 18 inches to identify subsurface headstones. These could be headstones that feel flat 100 year ago or longer.

The second process would be to use the radar to a depth of 3 to 4 feet. This would be to identify graves that are not currently marked by headstones.

The project will take a total of about 10 days for field work and analysis.

The total cost is estimated at $2,203.

Since many on the individuals that are buried in the Grinter Cemetery are some of our ancestors, we hope that some of our Tribal Members will make donation to help to cover this cost.

The Thanksgiving Address

Many of us say a prayer when we join together as a family prior to our Thanksgiving dinner.

Attached is a translation of the Mohawk version of the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address that was developed and first published in 1993.

Please click here to view and consider using this somewhat long, but very meaningful prayer.

2026 Year-End Tax Planning

As you begin your 2026 year-end tax planning, please take your Tribe into consideration.

Your donation can be designated to our Scholarship Fund, to our General Fund and/or to our Grinter Chapel and Cemetery Fund.

The Tribe has ongoing expenses for the Grinter Chapel and Cemetery including property and casualty insurance ($10,200 per year), utilities (average $500 per month), Internet service ($102 per month), Zoom meeting expense ($169 per year), Newsletter distribution service ($273 per year) and lawn mowing ($750 per month for 8 months).

Remember that you Tribe is an IRS authorized 501(c)3 public tax-exempt organization so your donations should be deductible on your 2026 Federal Tax Return.

In addition, please remember that your Tribe now has a brokerage account with a financial services company so we are able to accept publicly traded stock as a donation.

If you are at least 70 ½ and have a Traditional IRA or Roth Individual Retirement Account, you can transfer cash or stock directly to your Tribe. In addition, if you do not want to pay income tax on some or all of you Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), please consider transferring cash or stock directly to your Tribe.

An individual 70 ½ and older can also make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly to our brokerage account, up to $110,000 per year.

Please contact your accountant, or tax or financial advisor to help with this type of donation.

Donations to Your Tribe

Please consider making a contribution to your Tribe! Your contribution can be designated to our Scholarship Fund, to our General Fund and/or to our Grinter Chapel and Cemetery Fund.

Ways you can donate:

- **Mail a check** to our Chief made payable to the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians, at 923 South Mason Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63141.
- **Send funds** through **Venmo @KSDELAWARETRIBE.**
- Give through our **GoFundMe** account here.

Remember that we are an IRS authorized 501(c)3 public Tax-Exempt organization with the Internal Revenue Service so your donations should be deductible on your 2026 Federal Tax Return. We will mail letters acknowledging all 2026 contributions in January of 2027 to provide you documentation concerning your contribution amount.

Wanishi!

November Lenape Lesson By Susan Webb

These monthly lessons are sourced from the Lenape Talking Dictionary (LTD) at www.talk-lenape.org. The LTD is curated by Jim Rementer. Check out Lesson #7 [Kinship & Months] AND the kinship terms in his Nov. Word-A-Day calendar at www.delawaretribe.org. Wanìshi, Jim Rementer.

It's National Native American Heritage Month.

Alënixsitàm! Let's talk Lenape!



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November Coloring Book Page

Your Tribal Council feels a strong need to get our younger members more involved with Tribal Activities. So we have included a printable coloring page from a Native American coloring book with each monthly Newsletter.

Please click here to print the full page!

Membership Updates

It is important to keep your contact information current with the Tribe. Please contact Brenton Zeigler (Bzeigler@kansasdelaware.org) with any updated contact information for you and your family members.

Reminder: Add us to your Safe Senders list. To ensure you continue to receive Tribal newsletters and other communications, please be sure to add the below email address to your Safe Senders List.

Our email address is: info@kansasdelaware.org

Contact Us - Your Tribal Council

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