Ben Barnes Coming from Oklahoma for Sunday, June 8 Presentation (3:00)

Attendees at the museum’s first official speaker presentation of this season will surely find Ben Barnes’ message a fascinating one. Currently serving a four year term as Vice Chairman/Second Chief of the Shawnee Tribe, Barnes is vigorously involved in native language preservation and cultural preservation. He is also well versed in Tribal Sovereignty and Indian Gaming. (Ben is director for all of the Miami Tribe’s gaming operations and gaming projects, and is responsible for current and future development of gaming enterprises for the tribe.) With this background and varied involvement, Barnes is bound to be one interesting speaker!

The following excerpt from the Miami, Oklahoma Convention and Visitors' Bureau Website. http://www.visitmiamiok.com/native/ will provide some additional background pertaining to our speaker:

In and around Miami, Oklahoma are located at least 8 different tribes of Native Americans. They are: Miami; Modoc; Ottawa; Peoria; Quapaw; Seneca Cayuga; Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (The Eastern Band of Shawnees are in Missouri); and the Wyandot. A representative of each of these tribes has written for the visitmiamiok.com website a history of his/her tribe. Following is the history of the Oklahoma Shawnees of which our speaker is a chief:

Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Ron Sparkman, Chairman, PO Box 189, Miami, OK 74355, Website: www.shawnee-tribe.com

"The Shawnee Tribe traveled from the Atlantic coast to Pennsylvania, Ohio, Missouri and to Kansas. Their forced location to Kansas City area was mandated by the Federal Government. The city names of Shawnee, Lenexa, and Olathe, Kansas, are all words relating to the Shawnee Tribe. In 1869, the Shawnee were forced to leave their homeland in Kansas, Upon arriving in Oklahoma most Tribal members settled in what are now Ottawa and Craig counties. The Shawnee along with the Kansas Delaware were made citizens of the Cherokee Nation; however, they continued to maintain their own culture, language and ceremonies. They also continued to have their own elected Tribal government.
In 1999, federal legislation was passed by Congress that dissolved the 1869 agreement and once again the Shawnee became a federally recognized tribe. The Shawnee were invited by the other Tribes in this area to join with them and become a part of the Inter-Tribal Council. (Today’s Tribal Enrollment: 2000)"

Many people are familiar with the great leaders of the Shawnees - Blue Jacket, Tecumseh, The Prophet - but here is a unique opportunity for our patrons and guests to hear, first hand, the perspective of an individual living the life of a Native American in present day America! Come hear his story and the story of the Shawnees in America. And feel free to ask your questions!

St. Clair Run/Walk

Mercer Health 5K Challenge
Saturday, June 21st, 2014
Fort Recovery, Ohio
7:30 a.m. registration
8:30 a.m. race begins with cannon fire!

• Race Director: Kathy Gonzalez  419-375-2123  kkg@bright.net
Entry Fee: Make check payable to Fort Recovery Historical Society
Online registration at  www.goodtimesraces.com
$20.00 pre-registration  * purple & white tie dye with logo at right*
$12.00 pre-registration – no shirt
$15.00 registration on race day –* $15 for shirts race day, very limited quantities*
Early registration must be received by June 6th.
(Also, See fortrecoverystatemuseum.com for the registration form, or call 419-375-2123 to register by phone)

(The Ohio Historical Society [OHS] has changed its name to Ohio History Connections, [OHC])
American Battlefield Protection Grant - Research Continues on Fort Recovery Farms/Land.

Chris Thompson and Kevin Nolan of Ball State University's Applied Anthropology Laboratories, are leading a team of students as they survey areas that most likely composed the battlefield of the significant battles of 1791 and 1794. Using metal detectors and following a specific grid system, they have found some battle artifacts that help to verify the areas where the battle action took place. The Museum trustees and the Ball State personnel greatly appreciate the cooperation of farmers and other landowners who are allowing their properties to be surveyed. Important information is being added to that which is already known. An overview of this research will be given at the Jubilee Merchants Tent. (see below)

Also greatly appreciated is the funding that comes from the American Battlefield Protection Grant made possible by the National Parks Service. This competitive grant is the third in a series procured by Ball State University Department of Anthropology in cooperation with the Fort Recovery Historical Society, for the purpose of conducting archaeological surveys to gather this important battle/battlefield information and help preserve and protect the battlefield for future generations.

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At the Fort Recovery Harvest Jubilee - June,19-22

1. Pie Auction - Friday, June 20  8:30!! (a little later this year)
   If you have any pie baking skills at all, here is a chance to win a few dollars and a multitude of bragging rights. If pie-baking is not your thing, just bring your checkbook and buy one. Either way you will be helping the Fort Recovery Historical Society and the Fort Recovery Jubilee! Call 419-375-4384 for more details.

2. Ball State University Archaeologists' Display in the Big Jubilee Tent. See the displays, talk to archaeologists and students and see for yourself the information they have "uncovered" in their latest searches in the Wabash Battlefield area. (Fri 7-10 pm, Sat 7-10 pm, Sun after parade - 6 pm)

3. 5K Run/Walk, 8:30, Saturday, June 21 - Starting with Cannon Fire at the Museum

4. Rendezvous of Buckskinners - During Jubilee weekend Buckskinners will have their tents and campsites set up behind the fort. Come visit with the camping families. They will welcome you and will be eager to explain life in early America. Take your kids/grandkids and ask questions!

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Thank YOU Patrons

One hundred forty three (143) of you have become patrons for this year so far! Thank YOU so very much. As you may recall from the financial sheet shared with patrons in March, our bank account was low after the major needed renovations of the past two years. Your generous contributions give us comforting security knowing we are back in good shape. We believe it is important to keep our facilities in good and accessible shape, to keep up our educational endeavors through speakers and other presentations, and to do the PR necessary to publicize the importance of the significance of the military events that occurred here. (A list of 2014 will be attached to an upcoming newsletter.)

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Faithful Patrons Pass Away

Every year, sadly we lose faithful patrons - those who loved history, loved Fort Recovery, and contributed much appreciated funds to our museum. In addition to Hal Sherman whom we honored last month, we also want to acknowledge the sad loss of: Dennis Denney, Mike Evers, Cathy Franke, Charlie Hein and Ralph Staugler. (If I missed anyone, please let me know.)

We would like to acknowledge the donations made to the museum by the families of Dennis Denney and Cathy Franke - who asked loved ones to donate to the historical society/museum in lieu of flowers, and to Betty Feliciano and Ernie/Joanne Winner who made personal donations to the museum in memory of Charlie Hein, and to Tracy Hein Evers who made an extra patron donation for Mike! What a nice way to remember people who loved our museum. Thank you to those families and those donors! We will greatly miss those who have passed away. A sad loss for everyone.

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Wabash Plot - A Small but Beautiful and Oft-Visited Spot

Patron Dave Will does an outstanding job of keeping the plot of land signifying the source of the Wabash River in beautiful shape. Many people who come to the museum are interested in the Wabash and it's amazing place in the history of this area and our country. They either stop there on their way to the museum or ask for directions for stopping after. We direct them to this spot at the intersection of St. Rt. 49 and Mercer Darke County Line Road, 4 miles south of Fort Recovery, and we do it with pride knowing that Dave keeps it in perfect, photo-opportunity condition.
The Versailles Area Historical Society has calendars for sale at the Museum (corner of Marker Road and S. West St.) The calendar features photos & history of area churches. It is an 18 month calendar for January 2014 thru June 2015, and all photos are in color. Churches featured are St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Osgood; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Willowdell; St. Paul Lutheran Church near North Star; St. Louis Catholic Church, North Star; Christian Church, Brock and Christian Church, North Star; Holy Family Catholic Church, Frenchtown; St. Remy Catholic Church, Russia; St. Peter Lutheran Church, Webster; Webster Methodist Church. Finally, St. Denis Catholic Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Versailles Christian Church, First Southern Baptist Church, United Methodist Church and Living Waters Ministries all of Versailles.

Underway for Season 2014 at the Fort Recovery State Museum!

nancy knapke, director