



# THIS WEEK FROM Indian Country TODAY

THE PREMIER E-NEWSLETTER SERVING THE NATIONS, CELEBRATING THE PEOPLE

## A Letter from the Publisher

*Shekóli.* We are pleased to introduce the inaugural issue of our e-newsletter, *This Week From Indian Country Today*. As many of you know, this digital format is the most recent evolution of what had been, for two-and-a-half years, a successful and critically acclaimed weekly print magazine. Of course, the magazine had its roots in a weekly national newspaper which, in turn, began as a regional newspaper. In this day and age, your e-mail inbox has taken the place of the mailbox sitting on the post in front of your home, and these electronic pages have replaced the magazines and newspapers bundled with a rubber band.

Indian Country Today Media Network is designed as an issues-oriented, story-generating news organization with the purpose of telling the stories of the American Indian and our indigenous brothers and sisters worldwide. In contrast to the past, when the story of Indians was told by people from outside our communities, ICTMN now provides the means for the voices of Indian country to be heard from the inside out. The growth of our website in the past few years is a testament to the increasing interest in our issues, achievements, politics, pow wows and economic development. We hope, too, that the greater awareness of the connection of all things with Indian country has led to a more sympathetic understanding of who we are and how we see ourselves. That hope is accompanied by the modest belief that the global interest, given the number of people from countries beyond this continent and hemisphere who visit the website, is a sign of appreciation for the worldview of indigenous peoples at a time when so many people from industrialized nations are confronting



new anxieties, crises and environmental changes.

We also recognize that people interested in our stories may not find the time nor be inclined to regularly surf the internet and would rather enjoy formatted reading material that delivers relevant news in a concise and timely manner. That is why we have hit upon the idea of this newsletter—it is neither a direct copy of our website nor the magazine from which it grew, but it instead is a product we feel is most suited for readers' wants and needs while offering all the benefits of its digital delivery system. It can be read online or downloaded and stored on your computer for printing or reading onscreen at your convenience. We also anticipate that the immediacy and timeliness of its news features will enhance its innate potential as an interactive tool. This is why we have included a letters to the editor section, and why we encourage reader feedback via e-mails to us, in the same manner

that we have reached out to you. So, please, enjoy this first issue and let us know what you think. The sharing of information is a time-honored way of ensuring that the true story of Indian country can always be told.

*NA ki' wa,*

Ray Halbritter

## Table of *Contents*



2 COMMENTARY

3 NEWS

6 FOOD STAMP WAR

7 KIOWA SACRED PLACE

8 STUDENT LOAN CRISIS

9 ONE-TOUCH BINGO

10 WEB, EVENTS, LETTERS

11 TRADEWINDS CLASSIFIEDS

12 CARTOON, NEWS ALERTS

14 UPCOMING POW WOWS

15 THE BIG PICTURE

### How Dare the IRS Target Tribes


*The Internal Revenue Service is in hot water for apparently singling out the Tea Party movement for audits and investigations. Taking the long view, Oglala Sioux tribal president **Brian Brewer** also argues against the often-overlooked IRS targeting of tribes:*

Over the past 10 years, the IRS has had a program to audit Indian tribes on tribal government programs and services, which has resulted in an audit rate three times the national average. That's wrong, and it violates the United States Constitution, treaties, and laws. From the time of the first arrival on American shores, European nations recognized Indian nations and tribes as independent sovereign nations, with authority over our citizens and our territory. In 1778, the United States en-

tered its first written treaty with an Indian nation, the Delaware Nation, based upon a model of international relations. Before the Constitution, the U.S. entered into 17 treaties under the Articles of Confederation. Most of these were Indian treaties.

Through the Treaty and Supremacy Clause, the Constitution recognizes Indian nations as sovereigns by affirming treaties "already made" and by authorizing those "to be made" as an integral and essential part of the Supreme Law of the Land. In the Indian Commerce Clause, the Constitution establishes bilateral government-to-government relations concerning Commerce with the Indian Tribes (parallel to the Foreign Commerce Clause). In the Apportionment Clause, our Tribal citizens are recognized by the Constitution as

"Indians not taxed," and Indians were not counted for direct taxation purposes or for representation in Congress.

In the special area of treaties and remedial legislation, the citizens of Indian nations remain subject to tribal self-government and are not subject to federal or state law, unless Congress expressly enacts contrary legislation. The 1924 Indian Citizenship Act, with its savings clause for an Indian's right to tribal property, is a special area of remedial legislation intended to preserve tribal self-government. Therefore, the IRS has no authority to tax tribal government decisions to issue tribal property to our individual Indian citizens, whether through our tribal government programs and services or through another avenue. 

---

### An 'Outcome Document' With a Dubious Outcome


*At the 2014 United Nations World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, it is expected that an Indigenous co-facilitator will produce an "outcome document" to be negotiated with states in order to implement the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. **Steven Newcomb** (Shawnee, Lenape), co-founder and co-director of the Indigenous Law Institute, scoffs at the arrangement:*

The question arises: What is it that the Indigenous co-facilitator will "negotiate" with states? Negotiation often involves giving up certain things in the name of

compromise. Since we are told the "negotiations" will be about implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, what concessions or compromising positions are possibly going to be taken by the Indigenous co-facilitator, assuming one is appointed?

Such questions once again bring us back to the issue of interpretation. Why would we give one person out of thousands of distinct nations and peoples (or one person out of an estimated 370 million or more Indigenous people) the responsibility of negotiating with states

on anything, let alone our inherent and fundamental rights, which are non-negotiable?

We should question the sensibility of the entire scenario being presented to us regarding the state-controlled "outcome document." We have to keep our wits about us by staying on top of every detail and not see the repeat of an historical pattern. It does not make sense to select one person to "negotiate" on behalf of 370 million people. To do so would be the height of folly, no matter how many qualifications that person might possess. 


---

### Thumbs Up for a 21st Century Indian Policy

*President Obama's June 26 executive order creating a new White House Council on Native American Affairs, chaired by the Secretary of the Interior, was greeted with widespread enthusiasm. Among the supporters is **Tex Hall**, chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa & Arika Nation:*

On behalf of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association and the Council of Large Tribes, thank you, President Obama. From the Great Plains and Council of Large Tribes, we will be pleased to engage with Secretary Jewell and the new White House Council. Our Indian nations

and tribes want to promote the authority of Indian nations and tribes over our tribal government programs and services; the authority of Indian nations and tribes over our lands, natural resources and tribal economies; education, health, strong justice systems, and essential infrastructure; treaty rights, including self-governance, economic self-sufficiency, and a federal government commitment to appropriately fund federal treaty obligations; and inter-tribal trade and commerce, international indigenous trade and commerce, and free trade zones for Indian country.

Mr. President, thank you for recognizing that the United States's "history of mistreatment and destructive policies have hurt our communities." In 2009, under the leadership of senators Dan Inouye, Byron Dorgan, Dan Akaka and Sam Brownback, Congress issued the Apology to Native Americans. As Native people, it is fitting for us to remember the battles, struggles and travails that our grandfathers and grandmothers endured to secure our heritage, our sovereignty, and our lands. We have long suffered. Now, it is time to move forward. 



23<sup>rd</sup>  
edition

# PRÉSENCE AUTOCHTONE

MONTRÉAL FIRST PEOPLES FESTIVAL

July 30 >>> August 5, 2013

*The Best  
of Indigenous Creativity  
around the World*



Société pour la diffusion de la culture autochtone

COMPLETE SCHEDULE:

[PresenceAutochtone.ca](http://PresenceAutochtone.ca)



## VA Seeks to Reassure Native Veterans

BY VINCENT SCHILLING

The Veterans Administration recognizes the unique status of Native veterans and is determined to assist them to the best of its ability, Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Dr. Tommy Sowers told Indian Country Today Media Network.

“We understand and fully respect that we’re dealing with over 566 tribal nations,” Sowers told ICTMN after meeting with Potawatomi and Kickapoo tribal leaders at the Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center in Kansas. “We realize that there are very specific and unique concerns when you are dealing with sovereign entities.”

Sowers emphasized that the administration is doing its best to provide care in remote and rural areas without a VA facility. “The VA has done a couple of things,” he said. “It has really led the way with health and medicine to deliver the care to where the veteran needs it. With mail order prescriptions, the VA is by far the leader in mail order prescriptions. This means Native American veterans don’t have to drive into a facility just to get a prescription refilled. There are also innovative partnerships with IHS.”

Open communication with tribes has allowed the VA to constantly learn new ways of improving its relationship with them. “For example, today we heard about peyote,” Sowers said. “I don’t hear about peyote in many meetings, but it is a very specific issue of religious freedom and something that the VA is committed to addressing. This could be just in terms of its use, which...could have precluded them from access to VA benefits.”

## Casinos Honored For Helping Problem Gamblers

The National Council on Problem Gambling estimates that the annual social cost of gambling addiction exceeds \$8 billion. It is estimated that almost 1 million people suffer from gambling addiction in the state of California alone.

But some casinos are doing what they can to combat the problem. Among them are three Indian-owned casinos in California that this year earned Silver Responsible Gambling Certifications for at least the fifth time. They are the San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino, the Viejas Casino & Resort and the Pechanga Resort & Casino.

“We applaud these three gaming facilities for continuing to take the necessary steps to help problem gamblers,” said Robert Jacobson, executive director of the California Council on Problem Gaming.

“As more and more facilities take this initiative, those struggling with gambling addictions will be able to more easily get the help they need.”

Each casino received comprehensive training, complied with an extensive list of requirements, and demonstrated both the willingness and ability to help those affected by gambling addiction.

Founded in 1986, the non-profit California Council relies on donations from various companies and individuals to fund its programs. “The contributions of our supporters, including the United Auburn Indian Community, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians and the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians provide essential aid in our quest to do what we do,” Jacobson said. “Without them, we would not be able to reach the thousands of people who need our help each year.”

## New Funding Will Improve Food Security in Sonoran Desert

BY LEE ALLEN

It takes both seeds and smarts to grow food in the parched Sonoran Desert, which only grows hotter and drier with global warming. But two new grants totaling \$350,000 should help to reintroduce some traditional crops and help support local seed security and sovereignty.

The Gila River Indian Community has awarded the Tucson, Arizona-based seed conservation nonprofit Native Seeds/SEARCH a two-year, \$200,000 stipend to support a new program, “Laying the Foundation for Climate-Smart Agriculture in the Southwest.” Meanwhile, the Christensen Fund has contributed

\$150,000 for Native Seeds/SEARCH to launch another innovative effort called “Growing Opportunities for Native American Farmers.”

“We’re trying to provide a refined focus on both seed access and planting information to any regional growers who want to be involved with locally adopted crops,” said Chris Schmidt, director of conservation at Native Seeds/SEARCH. “It’s hard not to be concerned about future outlooks of food production anywhere, and it’s more of a concern in the Southwest because of our harsh environmental conditions.”

The grants will help fund an agricultural system that provides some

resilience to climate modifications. “Ultimately, what we’d like to see is what everybody did 100 years ago when farmers saved their own seeds to help with crop evolution,” said Schmidt. “That’s how we got the crop diversity we have today—because generation after generation protected their seed bank.”

The funding will also help underwrite experimental contracts with Native American farmers who will be provided with seeds and a stipend for operational costs. Their harvest seeds will then be bought back to restock a seed bank that distributes over 6,000 seed packets a year to Native American growers.

## Halting Police Arrests Within Ute Borders

BY CAROL BERRY

The Ute Indian Tribe (Northern Ute) has long complained that traffic stops and arrests by county and state police on tribal lands in northeastern Utah are illegal because they take place within the reservation. To that end, the tribe is seeking to affirm the boundaries of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, headquartered in Fort Duchesne, Utah.

The tribe won a temporary victory late last month in district court in Salt Lake City. Attorneys for the tribe said the state of Utah and Uintah County “agreed to voluntarily stay the criminal prosecution of Ute Tribal members who were arrested by Uintah County sheriff’s deputies inside the Uintah and Ouray Reservation,” pending a final decision by the court in 2014 on a permanent injunction against such prosecutions.

The Northern Ute reservation, like

many others, is checkered with trust, private, and government parcels and is crisscrossed by federal and state highways and county roads. The state and county allege the areas in which arrests took place are “former” or “historic” reservation lands. But the tribe argues that “state officers do not possess criminal jurisdiction over highways or roads running through reservation lands or through these three categories of lands meeting the definition of Indian country, a point the [surrounding] counties have continually refused to acknowledge.”

The National Congress of American Indians is supporting the tribe in its effort to ensure the reservation remains intact and to maintain authority over all Indian country lands within the reservation’s exterior boundaries. 🍄

## Selling Coffee Through the Navajo Nation Zoo

The Navajo Nation Zoo and the Kachina Tea & Coffee Company announced on July 9 that they have partnered to sell four new coffee blends, each hand-packaged in seven-ounce bags featuring one of four Navajo Zoo animals selected to represent the character of the coffee.

The coffee blends and animal pairings are Espresso Italiano, a medium-strong espresso roast featuring the orphaned Kay-bah, a rugged cougar lioness; Elegant Kona Blend, a simple and elegant roast blended with Hawaiian Kona beans with notes of tropical flowers and ripe persimmon, featuring the orphaned Naabahi, an endearing male bobcat; Chuska Chai’s Hazelnut, a fruity, smooth coffee with a hint of natural flavoring from Oregon-grown hazelnuts, featuring the zoo’s native tassel-eared squirrel Patrick Julian; and Regal Decaf, a rich, deeply dimensioned and sweet decaffeinated blend aptly represented by Hoop, the zoo’s male ringtail.

Proceeds from the coffee sales will be divided equally between the zoo and Kachina. The former will invest in caring for its animals and the future development of the zoo, while the latter will direct its profits toward a facility for the roasting and production of coffee.

The Navajo Nation Zoo, home to injured and orphaned animals, is the country’s only Native-owned and -operated zoo. Established in 1977 in Window Rock, Arizona, the zoo cares for animals unable to live in the wild and bills itself as “A Sanctuary for Nature and the Spirit.” Most of its creatures are native to the Four Corners region and play significant roles in the traditions, legends and stories of the Dine People.

Kachina, based in Malibu Canyon, California, got its start with natural botanical tea blends. Founder Keith Duquitto has more than 25 years of clinical practice as a respiratory therapist. 🍄

## ‘Twenty Grand Business Plan Competition’ Coming This Fall

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development is bringing its “Twenty Grand Business Plan Competition” to the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) Arizona at Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino in Chandler on October 22-24.

RES Arizona is being presented by Chukchansi, Inc., the diversified holding company for the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians. Along with the Native American Financial Services Association, Chukchansi also hosted RES California, another regional RES event, at the Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, California, on June 17-19. The multifaceted RES Arizona event will likewise feature unparalleled access to respected tribal leaders, state and locally elected officials, as well as top CEOs.

The business plan contest will feature both start-up and established Native American businesses, vying for the chance to win a \$20,000 cash award from the National Center. The business plans and presentations will be judged by a panel consisting of accomplished entrepreneurs and business leaders. The winner will be determined based on several criteria: business structure, financial viability, personal abilities, business experience, and the quality of the plan. The deadline for participants to complete the submission process is 6 p.m. Pacific Time on September 27.

“Attending events like RES Arizona help small businesses make connections and opportunities that are imperative for small businesses to flourish,” said Derrick Watchman, chairman of the National Center and CEO of Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprises. 🍄

## Santa Ysabel Tribe supports same-sex marriage

*California tribe expresses solidarity with LGBT community*

The Santa Ysabel Tribe has come out in favor of marriage among the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community, making it one of only four tribes in the U.S. to do so to date. “Although the Tribe has certainly come far, they won’t ever forget the sting of prejudice, or stand passively by when others suffer discrimination or denial of basic human rights,” said tribal chairman Virgil Perez. “We want the LGBT community to know they are welcome here, and that the encouragement and respect of our membership are with them.” <https://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/06/28/santa-ysabel-tribe-first-california-support-same-sex-marriage-150179>

## Chief of the Sioux Nation walks on

*Oliver Red Cloud was an iconic leader*

Oliver Red Cloud, chief of the Sioux Nation since 1977, walked on July 4 at age 93. A delegate to the United Nations, chairman of the Black Hills Sioux Nation Treaty Council and a foreman to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, he was a champion of Lakota culture on Turtle Island and abroad. Red Cloud was also a descendent of Chief Red Cloud, who led a number of battles against the U.S. Army and signed the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty. <https://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/08/sioux-nation-chief-oliver-red-cloud-walks-150330>

## Will Johnny Depp buy Wounded Knee?

*‘Lone Ranger’ actor is interested in gifting the sacred site*

Johnny Depp, who plays Tonto in Disney’s new movie, *The Lone Ranger*, may want to purchase the site of the Wounded Knee massacre and return it to the Oglala Sioux Tribe. “It’s very sacred ground,” he told the London Daily Mail. “All I want to do is give it back.” Upon hearing the news from Indian Country Today Media Network, tribal president Bryan Brewer was enthused. “This is really something,” he said. “If he would like to speak with us that would be great.” Landowner James Czywinski put the site on the market for \$4.9 million in May. <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/10/owner-wounded-knee-eager-sell-johnny-depp-150365>

## Oregon unveils radical tuition-free program

*New plan has support of legislature*

Under a plan called “Pay it Forward, Pay it Back,” college students attending state schools in Oregon could do so without taking out loans or paying any money up front if they agree to pay up to three percent of their future salaries into a fund annually for 24 years. Mark Hass, a Democratic state senator from Beaverton, championed a bill that creates a study committee charged with creating the pilot program, which passed unanimously in the state Senate on July 8 and had already gained House approval. The

legislature will decide in 2015 whether to implement the pilot program. Oregon has 10 federally recognized tribes and, according to the 2012 Census, an American Indian population of 1.8 percent. <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/09/oregon-considers-tuition-free-program-college-students-150345>

## Native American Day strikes out

*New York Mets cancel display of cultural pride*

The New York Mets have canceled Native American Heritage Day at their home park of Citi Field because the game was scheduled against the Atlanta Braves. The Mets had approached the American Indian Community House (AICH) to help organize the July 25 event, which would have presented Native culture through song, dance and other activities. But the Mets, worried that this might be construed as a protest against Atlanta’s team name, eliminated much of the programming, prompting the AICH to withdraw. “It just feels like we’re being marginalized again within our own community,” said Kevin Tarrant, deputy director of AICH. <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/10/mets-strike-out-american-indian-heritage-day-against-braves-150354>

## Renewable energy in Wisconsin

*New source for the Forest County Potawatomi Community*

The Forest County Potawatomi Community has broken ground on an \$18.6 mil-

lion renewable energy facility in the Menomonee Valley that will convert liquid and solid food wastes to biogas through an anaerobic digestion process. The biogas will fuel generators to produce approximately 2 megawatts of gross electrical power output—enough electricity to power about 1,500 homes. The power will be sold to WE Energies, the local electrical utility. The facility is expected to create nearly 100 construction jobs and an additional five full-time jobs after completion. <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/11/potawatomi-break-ground-biogas-plant-converting-food-waste-electricity-150372>

## Positive effects of poor neighborhoods

*Pride of place matters when you stay there*

Poor people are likelier than the affluent to take pride in their neighborhoods, monitor and report crimes and otherwise exercise domestic care, University of Missouri researchers have found. “One possibility is that, because these individuals had such low incomes, they were more likely to stay in the same area for a long time,” said Mansoo Yu, an assistant professor of social work and public health at the university. “Low-income residents might lack the resources to move to other communities, whereas their neighbors with relatively higher incomes might be able more to move to better neighborhoods with safer environments.” <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/10/study-low-income-residents-more-likely-support-communities-150360>

# Food Stamp War in Congress

Indian voices are largely unheard on Capitol Hill **BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO**

**Bottom Line:** *The White House has indicated that President Obama would veto legislation that does not include farm bill funding for Food Stamps. But that doesn't mean that Congress isn't trying to gut this badly needed program.*

Once again, Congress is taking steps to slash funding for SNAP—the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as food stamps—as nutrition experts and tribal advocates fear that Native Americans' use of the program and its usefulness to them is being ignored in the overall debate.

“Many tribal communities are food deserts and SNAP cuts will only double the hardship some face to get access to food,” said Jim Roberts, a policy analyst with the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. “Generally, tribes are focused on preserving and protecting BIA and IHS programs. Thus, the program does not have a strong advocate to speak up for it.

“Tribal health directors feel the current debate on deficit reduction and the effects of food sequestration have and will continue to have a negative impact on SNAP,” Roberts added. “Nutrition programs on reservations are already underfunded. The programs in many instances are the primary source of food for Indian families and their children.”

Congress isn't hearing Indian voices on this issue, said Craig Gunderson, a University of Illinois professor who has conducted studies and reported on American Indian use of federal food programs.

“Unfortunately, while there is lots of coverage of SNAP; I haven't seen as much regarding American Indians within current debates,” Gunderson said. “This is unfortunate because, insofar as American Indians have some of the highest food insecurity rates of any group in the United States, they have the most to lose.”

Government statistics indicate that American Indians are among the groups who rely on food stamps and federal nutrition programs the most. According to recent federal data, SNAP in 2008 served on average of 540,000 low-income people per month who identified as American Indian/Alaska Native alone and 260,000 who identified as American Indian/Alaska Native and white.

The National Congress of American Indians reports that 20 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native households receive Food Stamps. And while American Indian/Alaska Native households make up about .7

---

*American Indians are among those who rely on food stamps the most.*

---

percent of total U.S. households, they make up 1.5 percent of SNAP households.

The situation is so acute that Chris Stearns, the chairman of the Seattle Human Rights Commission, regards it as a major human rights issue. “The USDA reports that among households with children, nearly twice as many Native households are food-insecure than among non-Native households [28 percent versus 16 percent],” he noted. “The right to food is a basic human right covered in Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In addition, Article 24 of the U.N. Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides that indigenous people have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health. The right to food is

inherent in that broader right. Article 24 also states that Indigenous peoples have a right to the conservation of vital plants and animals.

“The farm bill should guarantee that Indians have the right to conserve, harvest, and consume traditional and healthy foods,” Stearns concluded.

In June, House Republican leaders failed to pass a farm bill that would have included large food-stamp program cuts after the GOP passed an amendment to institute work requirements. The bill included a three percent cut to the \$80 billion-a-year nutrition program.

Sixty-two Republicans joined Democrats in voting against the House bill, prompting Speaker John Boehner during a later closed meeting of House Republicans to say he was “pissed off,” a remark that was widely reported in the press. The Senate passed a farm bill last month with a smaller cut to food stamps of one-half of one percent with widespread Democratic and Republican support.

After the embarrassing defeat, Republican leadership in the House worked feverishly to pass a farm bill that would not include food stamps at all, hoping to leave that debate for another time. In a floor vote on the evening of July 11, the vote was narrowly successful, 216-208, with no Democrats voting in favor and 12 Republicans opposing.

If there is a bright spot in the current crisis, it is that the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, a federal program that provides USDA foods to low-income, Indian country-based households, appears safe for now. That program served approximately 80,000 individuals per month in fiscal year 2011, according to administrative data. 🌱

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/12/pissed-boehner-leading-latest-indian-war-food-stamps-150389>

# Peril for a Kiowa Sacred Place

Mining operations seem imminent **BY BRIAN DAFFRON**

**Bottom Line:** *Longhorn Mountain in Oklahoma, a venerated site for the Kiowa for generations, is under threat from plans to mine it for gravel. And because it is private land, the situation appears grim.*

The Kiowa Tribe has gathered cedar for ceremonies and prayed on Longhorn Mountain south of Gotebo, Oklahoma for generations. But that practice is now in serious jeopardy as efforts to mine gravel out of the mountain are scheduled to begin by summer's end, turning generations of sacred usage into rubble.

"This is where we always come," said tribal historian Phil Dupoint. "This is where our elders used to come. Maybe they were searching for some kind of power... They would go to Longhorn and different places in the area."

Dupoint said that the cedar gathered from the area is special in part because it has a unique scent, different from that of any other cedar in the United States and Canada. He added that medicine people in the Kiowa Tribe would also leave spiritual power for future generations on the mountain.

The jeopardy that now faces Longhorn Mountain can be traced back to the creation of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Reservation through the Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867. That agreement placed the tribes' reservation in southwest Oklahoma, where Longhorn Mountain lies. By 1901, the Jerome Agreement opened the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Reservation to non-Indian settlement, after the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache families were allotted 160 acres each.

Sections of the mountain were allotted to Kiowa families, but those lands were eventually sold to non-Indians

(indeed, five non-Indian families currently own the Longhorn Mountain area). It is through what Dupoint refers to as a "gentleman's agreement" that the Kiowa have entered the mountain on the east side to gather cedar.

But the clock is ticking: Mining is scheduled to begin on the west side of the mountain this summer. The Oklahoma Department of Mines has already issued a blasting permit to the Mate-

---

*This is where our elders used to come. Maybe they were searching for some kind of power... They would go to Longhorn and different places in the area.*

---

rial Service Corporation, according to Amie Tah-Bone, the Kiowa Museum director. Rock crushing activities will then be under the supervision of Stewart Stone, based out of Cushing, Oklahoma. As of press time, calls placed to the Oklahoma Department of Mines and to Stone had not been returned.

In addition to the spiritual assault on the mountain that the mining operation constitutes, there are practical considerations as well—specifically, the effects of dust from the mining activities on the west side, which could have an adverse

impact the area's environment. The potential effects include a reduction in air quality, damage to surrounding crops and livestock, and the devastation of the mountain's cedar trees.

Tah-Bone acknowledged that the Kiowa are at a disadvantage. "It's a hard and complex situation," she said. "It's not trust land. It's not federal land. It's privately owned land, and we don't have a right to it. We thank the people on the eastern side for their generosity in letting us have access to it. They could throw us in jail for trespassing, but they don't. We are working on it... and doing everything we can think of to stop it. It might take some time. We want people to know we're doing the best that we can."

The Kiowa have been meeting with landowners as well as state and federal officials about the issue. Kiowa officials have also been meeting with the farmers and ranchers in the surrounding region about the environmental impact of the mining, and they hope to hear from those who may wish to assist them.

Previous attempts to purchase the land have not been successful. For the moment, efforts to halt construction rest with those who hold the surface and mineral rights to the mountain—the landowners—and those who are spiritually connected to the mountain.

"Right now, it's just to work with the landowners," Dupoint said. "Somewhere down the line, if it's not them, maybe their offspring. They may feel passion; they may be able to talk with us and give us the opportunity to purchase it back, or they would deed it back to us. We don't know what goes on in a man's mind or in his heart." 📍

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/12/gravel-mining-puts-kiowa-sacred-place-peril-150378>



# Crisis in Student Loans

Rate increase is bad news for Native American education **BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO**

**Bottom Line:** *The recent failure of Congress to curb vastly increasing student loan rates will have an adverse impact on borrowers, and Native American college students are likely to be among those who are most seriously affected.*

Rates on new federal subsidized student loans doubled on July 1, from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent, after Republicans blocked legislation that would have maintained lower student loan interest rates. That means it will take much longer for students to pay back loans after graduation, and they will be saddled with debt for much longer.

Carrie Billy, president of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, said that this situation is especially dangerous for Native American students. That is because many of them cannot avoid taking out federal student loans. This dilemma is especially true for those who attend public or private universities or who go on to graduate school after attending tribal colleges or universities, many of which do not offer advanced degrees.

“For these American Indian students—who have some of the lowest family income rates in the country and who will return to their reservation communities to work after graduation—doubling the interest rate on their loans could mean the end of their education,” Billy said. “They simply will not continue. They cannot afford to carry such a heavy financial burden.”

Billy said that high interest rate loans not only harm students and their families but also hurt the economic progress of tribal nations and the country as a whole: “[E]very student we lose is one less student contributing to the rebuilding of our tribal economies and contributing to America’s future workforce.”

Quinton Roman Nose, executive director of the Tribal Education Departments National Assembly, similarly predicted that costlier student loans

will result in major problems for Indian college students.

“The student loan situation is even more detrimental to Native American students, especially if the student quits school and then defaults,” Roman Nose said. “They are put in a Catch-22 situation where they probably won’t be able to get a job that’s going to give them a chance to earn a living and make their student loan payments.”

In addition, Roman Nose said, some

---

*“The student loan situation is even more detrimental to Native American students, especially if the student quits school and then defaults.”*

---

colleges are not helping Native American students become aware of the long-term effects of taking out student loans. “With the loan interest rates subject to rise for all students, it creates a larger burden for our Native American students,” he warned.

Attempts to block the rate increase have currently stalled in the Senate, with S.1238, known as the Keep Student Loans Affordable Act of 2013, failing by a procedural vote of 51 to 49 on July

10. The bill, which required 60 votes to proceed to debate, would have kept the interest rate on federally subsidized Stafford student loans at 3.4 percent for an additional year.


Democrats have vowed to continue the effort to maintain lower rates. Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-New Mexico) is one of those who has been working to prevent the increases through reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

“The Higher Education Act, the appropriate vehicle to change the way interest rates are calculated, doesn’t expire until the end of this year,” Heinrich said in a statement. “Passing a year extension gives Congress the time to consider all the proposals in the context of containing college costs, not just loan rates.”

After voting for the failed Keep Student Loans Affordable Act, a bill he co-sponsored, Heinrich said, “Earning a college degree shouldn’t be a luxury, but something that every American family can afford.... We need to give students a fair shot at succeeding in a tough economy, not saddle them with debt.”

Republicans are currently supporting a proposal that would reset interest rates each year, even as they rise. Heinrich called it “a move that could cause student loan rates to more than double over the next 10 years, burdening students and families with more debt.”

Billy, meanwhile, said that AIHEC and other Native education groups are currently working with national partners, led by the American Council on Education, to urge Congress to take action immediately helping to ensure that all Americans, including American Indians, have access to high-quality and affordable higher education.

“A key tool in making postsecondary education accessible and successful is affordable student loans,” Billy said. 

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/07/11/student-loan-rate-increase-impacts-neediest-native-students-most-150384>

# A Boost For One-Touch Bingo

Proposed revision would benefit tribal gaming **BY GALE COUREY TOENSING**

**Bottom Line:** *The potential reversal of Bush administration policy regarding how to classify one-touch electronic bingo would broaden the reach and benefits of this popular game.*

The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) wants to classify one-touch electronic bingo machines as Class II gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act—a move that would change a controversial Bush administration-era rule and benefit Indian casinos.

One-touch bingo is a networked electronic game in which the player presses only one button to wager and play. The new classification would mean that Class II Indian gaming facilities can offer state-of-the-art electronic bingo machines that have the speed and excitement of slot machines. (Class II facilities do not require a tribal-state gaming compact.)

The NIGC published the proposed “re-interpretation” of one-touch electronic bingo machines on June 25 in the Federal Register, setting the clock ticking on a 60-day period to receive comments on the proposal from tribal leaders and the general public.

“The NIGC is not proposing a new rule or regulation classifying games, but rather is proposing to reconsider one decision related to one type of game—one touch bingo,” wrote NIGC Chairwoman Tracie Stevens and Associate Commissioner Daniel Little in a letter to tribal leaders June 20. “The proposed re-interpretation finds that it is Class II.”

In 2008, then-NIGC Chairman Phil Hogen rejected a gaming ordinance from the Metlakatla Indian Community in Alaska, which called its one-touch electronic bingo machines Class II gaming. Hogen argued that one-touch machines lacked the “competition” element required to meet the statutory definition of

such games. Since the system “covered” the bingo card on the player’s behalf and contained all of the fundamental characteristics of the bingo game, Hogen said, it was therefore a Class III electronic facsimile.

The Metlakatla rejection came amid three years of harsh criticism by tribes against Hogen, who tried to push through a controversial set of regulations that would have drawn what he called “a bright line” between Class II and Class III gaming. That line would have classified virtually all Class II machines as Class III machines, requiring tribes without Class III compacts to pay states a cut of their profits. Tribal leaders said that Hogen’s efforts would have threatened the economic viability and tribal sovereignty of the Class II tribal gaming industry.

Hogen withdrew the proposed regulations in the fall of 2008 after a huge outcry. But he had so outraged the gaming community that in 2009 the National Indian Gaming Association asked President Barack Obama to publish new gaming rules until a new chairman was appointed in his place. Stevens replaced Hogen in June 2010 and has worked hard to repair the agency’s relationship with tribes through consulting and streamlining the commission’s operations.

The new proposal “reinterprets” Hogen’s rule to say that electronic one-touch bingo meets all the statutory requirements of IGRA’s definition of Class II bingo, even though the machine draws and covers the numbers at the same time. The player engages with the machine, participates in the bingo game, competes with fellow players on the electronically linked bingo system and can win prizes, including money.

In a July 8 e-mail blast, the National Indian Gaming Association praised the commission for its efforts to revise the

earlier interpretation of the statute. “The NIGC should be commended for taking this important step to adopt a more reasoned and principled approach to game classification,” chairman Ernie Stevens Jr. said. “Such approach will bring much needed clarity and certainty to the Class II gaming industry and encourage tribes to take full advantage of advancing technologies in Class II gaming.”

Normally, states have no jurisdiction over Class II gaming. There is one state, however, where this is not the case. That is Maine, whose uniquely restrictive tribal-state settlement act allows it to claim that certain federal laws that benefit Indian tribes do not apply to the Penobscot, Passamaquoddy and Maliseet nations. Indeed, opponents of Indian gaming in Maine managed again this year to postpone a bill to allow one-touch electronic bingo at Penobscot until the next legislative session.

Penobscot Indian Nation Chief Kirk Francis said he hopes the NIGC re-interpretation will convince Maine state officials that the Nation’s proposed one-touch bingo machines are indeed Class II gaming devices. The state has managed to block Penobscot from upgrading its old-fashioned manual bingo operation for years while allowing non-Indian gaming to flourish in the state.

“We just went through this kind of battle here over ‘Is it bingo or is it a slot machine?’ so hopefully the NIGC ruling will become the go-to science behind what these machines really are,” said Penobscot Chief Kirk Francis. “But the State of Maine is always going to take the position of, ‘Well, it’s great that the NIGC said what they said,’ but they don’t pay too much attention to federal-based issues. So I think [the NIGC proposal] is a good thing, but I don’t know quite what it’ll mean for us in Maine.”

# Headlines from the Web

## NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL OUSTS PRESIDENT

[http://helenair.com/news/state-and-regional/northern-cheyenne-tribal-council-ousts-president/article\\_401f6d67-7904-5c8c-bb83-d5df865dd935.html](http://helenair.com/news/state-and-regional/northern-cheyenne-tribal-council-ousts-president/article_401f6d67-7904-5c8c-bb83-d5df865dd935.html)

## TRIBE WEIGHS NEW APPROACH ON ALCOHOL SALES

[http://online.wsj.com/article\\_email/SB20001424127887324260204578587924091637736-1MyQjAyMTAzMDEwMDExNDAYWj.html?mod=wsj\\_valettop\\_email](http://online.wsj.com/article_email/SB20001424127887324260204578587924091637736-1MyQjAyMTAzMDEwMDExNDAYWj.html?mod=wsj_valettop_email)

## GOVERNOR, TRIBAL PRESIDENT TALK FOR JUST TWO MINUTES

[http://journalstar.com/news/local/governor-tribal-president-talk-for-just-minutes/article\\_8149f9b2-89e4-573c-9521-e537c-c5e7ebd.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/governor-tribal-president-talk-for-just-minutes/article_8149f9b2-89e4-573c-9521-e537c-c5e7ebd.html)

## FOND-DU-LUTH CASINO IN DOWNTOWN DULUTH LOWERS GAMBLING AGE TO 18

<http://www.duluthnewtribune.com/event/article/id/272091/>

## HOPI SUE NAVAJO OVER LAND ACCESS FOR RELIGIOUS USE

[http://azdailysun.com/news/local/state-and-regional/hoopi-sue-navajo-over-land-access-for-religious-use/article\\_1b6bbf60-e92c-11e2-950e-0019bb2963f4.html](http://azdailysun.com/news/local/state-and-regional/hoopi-sue-navajo-over-land-access-for-religious-use/article_1b6bbf60-e92c-11e2-950e-0019bb2963f4.html)

## TAOS PUEBLO TO HONOR RICHARD NIXON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2013/07/11/38133/taos-pueblo-to-honor-richard-nixons-100th-birthday>

## Upcoming Events

### FOR ALL MY RELATIONS: A CONFERENCE FOR INDIAN FAMILIES JULY 18-20, 2013

Sponsored by the National Indian Justice Center, this 13th annual gathering aims to create a strong foundation for Native American families and tribal governments. There are workshops for adults and youth, as well as for those who serve tribal communities, including tribal council members, justice systems personnel, health and human services personnel and state and federal agency personnel.

Location: Marriott Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim, California

### NATIONAL NATIVE MEDIA

### CONFERENCE

JULY 18-21, 2013

The Native American Journalists Association and Native Public Media will co-host this year's conference, giving special focus to the latest innovations in the media industry and news developments in Indian Country.

Location: Tempe Mission Palms Hotel and Conference Center, Tempe, Arizona

### NATIVE AMERICAN LEADERS' FORUM JULY 21-23, 2013

"5 Factors of Successful Tribal Leadership" will feature intensive training in interactive small- and large-group activities, self-evaluations, instructor-led dis-

cussions and peer-to-peer discussions. Location: Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa, Honolulu, Hawaii

### TRIBAL COURT TRIAL ADVOCACY TRAINING PROGRAM

JULY 22-25, 2013

Sponsored by the BIA's Division of Tribal Justice Support, the course will offer lectures and exercises in such areas as trial preparation, opening statements, direct examination, cross-examination, exhibits and evidentiary foundations, and closing arguments. There will also be a half-day roundtable discussion of the newly reauthorized Violence Against Women Act. Location: Peppermill Hotel, Reno, Nevada

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

During a small ceremony on June 13 at the Cherokee County South Carolina Court House, a long overdue milestone was realized. Earlier this legislative session, Dennis Moss and Steve Moss of the state House of Representatives introduced H. 3746, officially designating November 18th as Native American Awareness Day in South Carolina.

The framed document was presented to my mother, Katherine T. James, Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes of South Carolina. For more than 50 years she has traced the genealogical path of the Gibson, Collins, Goins, Sexton and other families to Hancock County, Tennessee and the Patriarch, Vardy Collins.

Tangentially, Dr. Will Moreau Goins,

CEO of the Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois, and United Tribes of South Carolina, has worked as an activist for promoting education, history, culture, and the arts of Native people.

It is my sincere hope that the work of these individuals and this event is newsworthy of *This Week From Indian Country Today*.

—William B. James Jr., Ph.D

Let us know what you think. To have your letter to the editor considered for publication, please email us at [editor@ictmn.com](mailto:editor@ictmn.com)

## Request for Proposal

Salish Kootenai College, Pablo, Montana 59855, subsequently referred to as SKC, invites all qualified Independent Certified Public Accounting firms to submit proposals to perform the following audit of the financial statements and records of the SKC and its discrete entity, Salish Kootenai College Foundation for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

Please request a copy of the complete proposal requirements by e-mailing Hayward Coe (Hayward\_coe@skc.edu). Please indicate **AUDIT PROPOSAL** in the subject line. A mailed copy can be received by calling 406-275-4991.

*Proposals to provide these services must be submitted to SKC by 4:30 P.M., Thursday August 1, 2013.*

Note: The SKC reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities in the bids received whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the SKC.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Beginning on June 30, 2013

AHI EZER APARTMENTS  
Project number: 012EH005  
located at  
1960 East 7th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11223  
a 73 unit building for elderly and disabled persons with limited income

### will close its waiting list

because the waiting period is excessive and is more than one year. A notice will appear in the newspaper again when the owner reopens the waiting list



## INFORMATION SYSTEMS NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

STARTING PAY: \$14.01/HR  
CONTACT HUMAN RESOURCES

FOR QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

GAMING LICENSE: CLASS III

CLOSING DATE: 07/24/2013 @ 3PM

**CEO, Carl T Curtis  
Health Education  
Center**

**CFO, Omaha Tribe**

**Revenue &  
Compliance  
Administrator**

**Administrative  
Officer**

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska  
PO Box 368  
Macy, NE 68039

P: 402-837-5391  
F: 402-837-4394

clecount@omahatribe.com



## Education Specialist (4) Positions

Yakama Nation Tribal School  
JA #2013-087 Close: 07-22-13  
Hourly: \$24.90  
Annual: \$51,793.75

**"Signing Bonus"**

**Emphasis on Two  
Math and/or Science  
Teachers**

**More information &  
application go to**  
[www.yakamanation-nsn.gov](http://www.yakamanation-nsn.gov)  
or contact  
Human Resources,  
401 Fort Rd., P.O. Box 151,  
Toppenish WA 98948  
509-865-5121  
X4385, 4833, 4381

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACT) Holdings, LLC

The ACT Holding, LLC, a separately organized entity of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas with primary mission of developing a framework to stimulate major economic development is seeking a full time CEO to provide direction and leadership; planning and directing development of new businesses, creating strategic partnerships, identifying merger and acquisition opportunities and pursuit of new lines of business opportunities. Responsibility includes strategic planning to create long and short term success goals that will contribute to the growth of the Tribe.

The CEO will coordinate with a five-member Board of tribal leaders and private sector professionals. The CEO must have superior appraising analytical and problem solving abilities. The CEO must be able to work independently and maintain high level of communications and conduct monthly board meetings.

Qualifications. Bachelor's degree (BA) from a four-year college or university and a minimum of ten (10) years of related and diversified economic development experience as manager and/or consultant. Must be able to read, analyze and interpret the most complex documents and have highly developed oral and written communication skills. Must be able to interact with the private and governmental sectors. This is a full time position with medical benefits; salary commensurate with education and experience. This announcement for the position will be open until filled. Indian preference in hiring will prevail.

Send resumes to ACT Holdings, LLC,  
571 State Park Road 56, Livingston, Texas 77351.  
For more information, call (936) 563-1382.

## Request for Proposal

The Nez Perce Tribe invites all qualified agencies to submit proposals to redesign and upgrade the official tribal website [www.nezperce.org](http://www.nezperce.org). This is a concept to completion production.

Proposals are due by  
August 22, 2013  
(4:30 p.m. PST) with  
a deployment date of  
February 1, 2014. An  
electronic copy of the RFP  
can be requested by  
emailing Catherine Big Man  
([catherineb@nezperce.org](mailto:catherineb@nezperce.org)).  
A mailed copy can be  
requested by calling  
208-843-7324



## TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

### YAVAPAI NATION LEADER CLINTON PATTEA WALKS ON

Dr. Clinton Pattea, who held the position of Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation tribal president for more than four decades, walked on July 5. He was instrumental in initiating a gaming pact with the state of Arizona and forcing the federal government to relocate the proposed Orme Dam, which would have flooded most of the reservation. In addition, Pattea was executive director of the Arizona Commission on Indian Affairs for 16 years.

### DORGAN CONTINUES TO PLEAD FOR NATIVES

Former U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-North Dakota) says

that the congressional sequester is devastating American Indian communities. Dorgan, past chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, recently wrote in *The New York Times* that the long history of Indian poverty, homelessness and despair has only been worsened by the across-the-board spending cuts entailed by sequestration. "We must exempt Indian country from sequestration—right now," he concluded.

### NAVAJO NATION DECLARES DROUGHT EMERGENCY

Drought-related conditions on the Navajo Nation have become so desperate that President Ben Shelly has declared a state of emergency. "We need to help

our people right now," he said. "We have wells that are dry. We have livestock that are thirsty and crops that are in dire need of water." According to the Navajo Nation, Western Agency precipitation is about 65 percent less than normal, with Fort Defiance Agency precipitation 63 percent below normal and Eastern Agency 55 percent below normal.

### IMPROVED PUBLIC SAFETY FOR YUOK TRIBE

The Yurok Tribe of California has established a public safety line for its reservation, thanks to new technology from the communications provider Carlson Wireless. Previously, a single line served the entire reservation, with consequent bottlenecks

and slower connections. But the new line will allow public safety agencies to access criminal databases and eventually allow them to conduct live video training with firefighters. The new line uses Carlson's white space technology, which brings broadband to rural locations.

### 'LONESOME GEORGE' TO GO ON PUBLIC DISPLAY

Lonesome George, the huge Galápagos tortoise who died at the age of 100 last year, will be stuffed and displayed at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Believed to be the last of the Pinta Island species, George was five feet long, weighed 200 pounds and was a favorite of tourists.



**INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER**

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT LICENSE REQUIRED  
 REPORTS TO GENERAL MANAGER  
 STARTING PAY: NEGOTIABLE  
 CONTACT HUMAN RESOURCES FOR QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  
 CLOSING DATE: AUGUST 21, 2013 @ 3PM  
 Fort Randall Casino, Hotel & Travel Plaza, East Hwy 46, Pickstown, SD 57367  
 Contact: Human Resources Department  
 605.487.7871

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Beginning on June 30, 2013**  
 AHI EZER KINGS HIGHWAY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND CORPORATION  
 Project number: 012EH430 located at 1879 East 3rd Street Brooklyn, NY 11223  
 a 50 unit building for elderly and disabled persons with limited income  
**will close its waiting list**  
 because the waiting period is excessive and is more than one year. A notice will appear in the newspaper again when the owner reopens the waiting list.



**THE HOH TRIBE**

Is seeking a full time **Human Resource Director**; HR Director's job is to implement HR programs and policies, and to manage every aspect of employee development and relations. The main responsibility of the HR director is to manage recruiting and staffing, performance management, benefits and compensation administration, organizational development, employee counseling services, and training. The position will close July 23, 2013, 4:00 P.M.

The Hoh Tribe is seeking proposals from qualified consultants or firms to provide professional **Grant-writing** and consulting services to the Tribe. The Administrative Assistant will receive proposals until 4:00 PM, July 23, 2013. Please deliver via e-mail or regular mail by the specified date and time to: Kristina Currie at the Hoh Tribal Administration, P.O. Box 2196, Forks, WA 98331 or kristinac@hohtribe-nsn.org.

**OVCDC Request for Proposals 13-14-37**

**OVCDC is seeking purchase and/or leasing (5 year) options from responsible qualified bidders for organization wide printing, scanning and faxing solutions including maintenance/warranty and training. OVCDC is seeking to standardize and upgrade its network copying, printing, scanning, and faxing capabilities. This project will be funded entirely with Government Grant funds.**

**For full Request for Proposals please visit [www.ovcdc.com](http://www.ovcdc.com)**

Bids will be received by OVCDC until 5:00 pm, PST, August 30, 2013 at the office of OVCDC Finance, P.O. Box 847, Bishop, CA 93515 or 2574 Diaz Lane, Bishop CA 93514. This RFP will remain open until awarded if sufficient qualified proposals are not received by August 30, 2013. For further information and to request a bid packet please contact the Purchasing/Contracts Administrator by telephone at 760-873-5107 or email [contracts@ovcdc.com](mailto:contracts@ovcdc.com)



**DateCatcher**

**SINGLE & LOOKING?  
 TRY DATECATCHER**

Articles, advice and services  
 partnered with and powered by

[match.com](http://match.com)



**Visit**  
[IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com/datecatcher](http://IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com/datecatcher)

## UPCOMING POW WOWS

**World Eskimo Indian Olympics**

July 17 – 20, Carlson Center, Fairbanks, Alaska  
 Contact: Alex McDonald  
 907-452-6646; [alex@weio.com](mailto:alex@weio.com)  
[WEIO.org](http://WEIO.org)

**Yamasee Indian Tribe: Green Corn Festival**

July 18 – 21, Yamasee Indian Reservation, Allendale, South Carolina

**Honor the Earth Homecoming Celebration and Pow Wow**

July 18 – 21, Hayward, Wisconsin  
 Contact: Willard Gouge  
 715-634-8924;  
[jamming\\_shinob@yahoo.com](mailto:jamming_shinob@yahoo.com)  
[LCO-NSN.gov](http://LCO-NSN.gov)

**13th Annual For All My Relations: A Conference for Indian Families**

July 18 – 20, Marriott Hotel in Anaheim, California  
 800-966-0662;  
[famr@nijc.org](mailto:famr@nijc.org)  
[NIJC.org/conferences.html](http://NIJC.org/conferences.html)

**Drums of Painted Mountain**

July 19 – 21, Cedar Bluff, Virginia  
 Contact: Gray Wolf Wilson  
 276-596-9281  
[IntertribalCouncil.com](http://IntertribalCouncil.com)

**Virginia City Treaty Days**

July 19 – 21, Virginia City, Montana  
 406-843-5555;  
[info@virginiacity.com](mailto:info@virginiacity.com)  
[VirginiaCity.com/#event:346](http://VirginiaCity.com/#event:346)

**Sixth Annual Healing Mother Earth Intertribal Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, Ashtabula, Ohio  
 Contact: Red Wolf 440-319-4483  
[Ueln.com](http://Ueln.com)

**Robert Woolery Sr. Memorial Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, Missouri  
 Contact: Bob Woolery, Jr. 660-826-5608; [dwoolery@aol.com](mailto:dwoolery@aol.com)

**Redbird's 2013 Children of Many Colors Intertribal Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, Moorpark College Athletic Field, Moorpark, California  
 805-217-0364;  
[redbirds\\_vision@hotmail.com](mailto:redbirds_vision@hotmail.com)  
[RedbirdsVision.org](http://RedbirdsVision.org)

**Mii-Gwitch Mahnomen Days Traditional 51st Annual Traditional Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, Ball Club, Minnesota  
 Contact: Sarah Wakanabo  
[milton.gotchie@llobjwwe.com](mailto:milton.gotchie@llobjwwe.com)

**Fifth Annual Sacred Visions Competition Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, Big Bend Ranch, Wadsworth, Nevada  
 775.560.1151;  
[sacredvision09@clearwire.net](mailto:sacredvision09@clearwire.net)  
[SacredVisionsPowWow.com](http://SacredVisionsPowWow.com)

**Cow Creek Tribal Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, South Umpqua Falls, Tiller, Oregon  
 Contact: Tammy Rondeau  
 541-672-3861;  
[twoodruff@cowcreek.com](mailto:twoodruff@cowcreek.com)  
[CowCreek.com](http://CowCreek.com)

**Comanche Homecoming**

July 19 – 21, Sultan Park, Walters, Oklahoma  
 580-492-3240  
[ComancheNation.com](http://ComancheNation.com)

**27th Annual Seafair Indian Days Pow Wow**

July 19 – 21, Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center, Seattle, Washington  
 Contact: John Romero or Chrissy Harris 206-498-7640 or 206-285-4425 x 1020;  
[johnromero.sr@live.com](mailto:johnromero.sr@live.com) or  
[charris@unitedindians.org](mailto:charris@unitedindians.org)  
[UnitedIndians.org/powwow](http://UnitedIndians.org/powwow)

**23rd Annual Nez Perce Tamkaliks Celebration**

July 19 – 21, Homeland Site, Walla Walla, Oregon  
 541-886-3103;  
[tamkaliks@gmail.com](mailto:tamkaliks@gmail.com)  
[WallaWallaNezPerce.org](http://WallaWallaNezPerce.org)

**Fourth Annual Native American Intertribal Traditional Pow Wow and Festival**

July 20, Freedom Financial Services EXPO Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado  
 Contact: One Nation Walking Together 719-329-0251;  
[info@onenationwt.org](mailto:info@onenationwt.org)  
[OneNationWT.org](http://OneNationWT.org)

**Summer Moon Pow Wow**

July 20 – 21, Endicott Park, Danvers, Massachusetts  
 Contact: Burne Stanley  
 617-642-1683; [mcnaa@aol.com](mailto:mcnaa@aol.com)  
[MCNAA.org](http://MCNAA.org)

**White Buffalo Society Pow Wow**

July 20 – 21, Summitville, Indiana  
 Contact: Rey Fisher  
 317-412-0989;  
[whitebuffalosociety@yahoo.com](mailto:whitebuffalosociety@yahoo.com)  
[WhiteBuffaloSocietyofIndiana.org](http://WhiteBuffaloSocietyofIndiana.org)

**19th Annual NACIP Contest Pow Wow and Festival**

July 24, Liberty Park, Salt Lake City, Utah  
 801-688-9297;  
[calnez@calnezdesign.com](mailto:calnez@calnezdesign.com)  
[NACIP.com](http://NACIP.com)

**15th Annual Onigum Traditional Pow Wow**

July 26 – 28, Onigum, Minnesota  
 218-547-4090 or  
 218-536-0213

**Julyamsh Pow Wow**

July 26 – 28, Post Falls, Idaho  
[Julyamsh.com](http://Julyamsh.com)

**Big Bend Pow Wow**

July 26 – 28 in Harrold, South Dakota  
 605-875-3282;  
[bigeagle@yahoo.com](mailto:bigeagle@yahoo.com)  
[Facebook.com/bigbendpowwow2012](https://www.facebook.com/bigbendpowwow2012)

**63rd Annual Indian Hills Pow Wow**

July 26 – 28, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
 405-919-1572;  
[yonavea@yahoo.com](mailto:yonavea@yahoo.com)

**44th Kihekah Steh Pow Wow**

July 26 – 28, Skiatook, Oklahoma  
 Contact: Donna Phillips  
 918-381-7996;  
[dphillips2002@gmail.com](mailto:dphillips2002@gmail.com)

**35th Annual Thunderbird American Indian Mid Summer Pow Wow**

July 26 – 28  
 718-347-3276;  
[info@queensfarm.org](mailto:info@queensfarm.org)  
[QueensFarm.org](http://QueensFarm.org)

**146th Winnebago Veteran's Pow Wow**

July 26 – 27, Veteran's Memorial Park, Winnebago, Nebraska  
 402-878-3218  
[WinnebagoTribe.com](http://WinnebagoTribe.com)

**Pipestone Pow Wow**

July 27 – 28, Leon H Moore Park, Pipestone, Minnesota  
 Contact: Rona Johnston  
 507-825-3734; [pipe@iw.net](mailto:pipe@iw.net)  
[PipeKeepers.org](http://PipeKeepers.org)

**Mni Wiconi Wacipi Traditional Pow Wow**

July 27, Turner, Oregon  
 Contact: Gary Eastty  
 360-546-1867;  
[geastty@wiconi.com](mailto:geastty@wiconi.com)  
[Wiconi.com](http://Wiconi.com)

**Grand River Champion of Champions Pow Wow**

July 27 – 28, Chiefswood Park in Oshweken, Ontario  
 Contact: Charlene Bomberry  
 519-751-3908;  
[info@grpowwow.com](mailto:info@grpowwow.com)  
[GRPowWow.com](http://GRPowWow.com)



*The Two Row Wampum Renewal Campaign paddlers—Haudenosaunee on the left, Onondaga on the right—finish their paddle across New York's Onondaga Lake on July 2.*

PHOTO BY SKARJANEWAH LOGAN

**THE BIG PICTURE**