



Indian Country

THIS WEEK FROM
TODAY THE PREMIER E-NEWSLETTER SERVING THE NATIONS, CELEBRATING THE PEOPLE

A Letter from the Publisher

Shekóli. For the sixth year in a row, the Oneida Indian Nation will be the proud sponsor of The True Spirit of Thanksgiving float in the annual Macy's Day parade. Our goal, as always, is to create a positive and accurate portrayal of who Indian people are today, particularly in light of the need to offset pervasive negative stereotypes—such as the portrayal of natives as villains in movies, or the presentation of Indians as mascots for professional sports teams. The reality is that apart from such persistent and thoughtless representations in the media, now is a great time to educate a majority of people who are receptive to understanding who we are, and who are open to understanding our preeminent role in the history of this land.



could argue that our ability to sustain the spirit of giving thanks in spite of all we have faced can serve as a beacon to those outside our communities who suffer from the anxieties of contemporary culture.

It is fitting, then, that The True Spirit of Thanksgiving depicts the Oneida Creation Story of Sky Woman. She came to rest on Turtle's back, which the other animals had covered with soil from beneath the sea. Thus living things may always find nourishment from the soil, for it springs from Mother Earth. On the Turtle's back (hence, Turtle Island) stands a White Pine Tree. The roots that spread out from the tree are called the Great Roots of Peace, and they spread in the four directions: one to the north, one to the south, one to the east, and

one to the west. On top of this Great Tree is placed an Eagle. The Eagle keeps a watchful eye on the roots and if any danger approaches, he will scream loudly, sounding the alarm and all the Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy will at once come to the defense and rescue. This symbolizes that everyone has the responsibility to protect the peace.

Last year, as we made our way along the route of the parade, ICT-MN correspondent Cliff Matias had a crowd's-eye view of the float. He was also in an unobstructed and unfiltered position to hear real-time reactions of people in the crowd around him. The most prevalent comment? "Thank you for giving us Thanksgiving." Another common exclamation: "Look, real Native Americans!" It was clear for those of us on the float that the Iroquois social dance music also struck a positive chord, and sent a positive vibe throughout the crowd.

So it is too, that we fulfill our obligations to Mother Earth and each other by keeping a watchful eye on what is right and what is wrong, and making our perspective and presence known.

Native people certainly have a great many issues to address and we need to come a lot further in our struggles. However, we must always find time to recognize the ceremonies of thanksgiving and gratitude to the creator for all we have. To speak truly, it is almost hard to fathom a Thanksgiving parade without a Native presence, regardless of the historical consequences of colonialism. Our way of life requires us to celebrate the bounty of Mother Earth; we must remember the many blessings we have, and we do have many. One

NA ki' wa,

Ray Halbritter

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Natives on Bullying & Suicide

Anthropologist Julianne Jennings (Nottoway) addresses the issues of bullying and suicide among American Indian youth and the need for it to stop now.

The rising teenage suicide rate (or attempted suicides) among any population is sorrowful. Multiple youth suicides send waves of hopelessness and despair throughout all communities in which they occur. In a recent article by the National Education Association, *Bullying Emerges as a Contributing Factor: The Scourge of Suicides among American Indian and Alaska Native Youth, 2011* reveals, “American Indian


children and teenagers are committing suicide at more than three times the rate of the overall youth population in this country. Among American Indian and Alaska Native youth, suicide is the second leading cause of death behind accidental injuries.”

One of the causes described as “stressful events” that can trigger a suicide is persistent and pernicious bullying.

The vast majority of American Indian and Alaska Native students attend K-12 public schools. Educators are committed to the proposition that every student has the right to learn, grow and develop his or her full potential, regardless of one’s personal, sexual and social orientation, it is critical that we

address the bullying issue. My daughter explains, “Coulda drowned, but I grabbed the rope.” She sought adult help before it was too late. She was one of the lucky ones, others may not be that fortunate.

Student-to-student bullying is not acceptable; and is a human rights issue. It violates a student’s basic human right to a quality education, and its impact on the bullied student can be severe, including increased absenteeism, lowered academic achievement, increased anxiety, loss of self-esteem and confidence, depression, deterioration of physical health, and suicidal thinking.

Let’s stop bullying now.
<http://bit.ly/1aM3v2c> 

Dousing the Pocahottie Stereotype

Americans (including American Indians) need to stop making excuses about stereotypes, because as Dwanna L. Robertson (Muscogee (Creek) Nation) says our future generations depend on it.

Recently, a tanning salon advertisement touted that Indians not only brought corn to the first Thanksgiving, they brought “sexy color.” After complaints (one of which was mine), the ad was taken down from Club Sun’s Facebook page and an apology of sorts was given. And herein lies the problem. Ads like these and society’s inadequate under-

standing of their inappropriateness show the depth of microaggressions, normalized racism, and internalized oppression that American Indians struggle with on a daily basis.

David Arnett, the marketing director for Club Sun, explained to a local TV station that he’s “Native American” and “proud of my heritage and skin tone.” The ad was meant to be “simply a play” on Arnett’s own sexy color. But the picture was not of Arnett or even a man. Instead, it was the typical “Pocahottie”—a stereotype of a sexualized Indian maiden. Normalized racism comes in the form of stereotypes about hyper-sexualized Native women. Arnett might not know that

this image originated with Columbus’s Second Voyage and how dangerous it continues to be for Native women.

Americans (that includes American Indians) have been socialized to “play Indian” since they could walk. Consequently, acts of racial and gender microaggressions, internalized oppression, and normalized racism will continue to raise their ugly heads until we decide to stop participating. We have to decolonize our hearts and minds, and then stand against the perpetuation of denigrating stereotypes. We have to quit making excuses for their existence. It matters for our future generations.

<http://bit.ly/18VQFv3> 


The Need to Protect Tribal Food Systems

As the government looks to roll out food safety regulations A-dae Vena Romero (Cochiti Pueblo/Kiowa) explains how tribes have followed procedures that are easily misunderstood outside tribal communities.

Currently, the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) is proposing food safety regulations (proposed produce safety rules) on food businesses that will have chilling and devastating effects on tribal food businesses. The FDA has not provided transparent and meaningful tribal input, yet these proposed produce safety regulations will directly impact the economic and political

health of tribes, tribal communities, and tribal producers.

Tribes have had the cultural technology and understanding of harvesting and processing foods for generations, but such knowledge is rarely understood outside the confines of tribal community. The affirmation of food as a “sacred” principle is too easily misunderstood. Some continue to easily dismiss the “sacredness of food” as “spiritual” or “religious” dogma that has little relevance in the sphere of food science. However, the essential idea of “sacred food” infers meaning to food items, guarantees consistent balanced behaviors and systematic procedures of food processing, handling, and consumption.

While food scientists and writers of proposed food regulations without tribal input may give little deference to cultural food practices or think of them as even irrelevant to food safety or at worse unsafe, tribal nations and tribal food producers should not be intimidated by food safety regulations and food safety laws proposed through Federal agencies. Tribal nations and tribal people have always known food safety and in many ways created a food safety system that has transcended generations. Tribal nations and tribal food producers have to be patient and allow mainstream food scientists time to catch up, while diligently defending cultural food practices and institutions. <http://bit.ly/1aCr3HE> 

Code Talkers Honored

BY VINCENT SCHILLING


On November 20, Native American code talkers from 33 tribes were honored at the nation's Capitol in Washington D.C. Taking the limelight with such notable historical figures as Rosa Parks, Mother Teresa and Astronauts, the code talkers and their prospective tribes were awarded Congressional Gold Medals.

A plethora of Senatorial and Congressional notables were present at the awards ceremony to include House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), Tom Cole (R-OK), Ron Kind (D-WI), Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD), Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV).

Also in attendance were family members and tribal leaders representing the code talkers as well as 96-year-old Edmond Harjo.

Speaker John Boehner opened the ceremony by applauding the efforts of Harjo who had recognized a fellow soldier's language in 1944 and was later utilized by the U.S. military as a code talker.

"Edmond and his brothers were at Normandy and Iwo Jima and they mobilized the weapon of language to thwart the fiercest enemy the free people have ever known and made a difference ...join me in applauding their perseverance and the deeds that have been relegated to legend and may they now live in memory," Boehner said.

Native American Congressman Cole then shared his thoughts. "It is an enormous honor for me to get to share this moment with you - no one has fought against an alliance like Native Americans. Native Americans enlist at a higher rate than any ethnicity in this land. Most famous of those warriors are the Navajo code talkers of World War II, but 33 different tribes contributed to the code talkers." <http://bit.ly/18dvLgt> 

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Feds Reach Out to Natives on Climate Change at Tribal Nations Conference

Building on the participation of tribes announced in President Barack Obama's recent executive order laying out a plan to deal with climate change, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) announced that it too would partner with the administration.


As the White House Tribal Nations Conference wrapped up, NCAI announced measures to work directly with the federal government to address climate change effects in Indian country.

Several federal officials noted the severe impacts that climate change has

had on American Indians and Alaska Natives, the NCAI said in a release. During the conference, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, Obama and others spoke directly to those issues in Indian country and about how the government can work with tribal leaders to best address these challenges.

Jewell set the tone for ongoing cooperation, the NCAI said in its statement, by speaking "of the ongoing dialogues we need to have as we work together toward tribal self-determination and self-governance and promoting prosperous and resilient tribal nations."

Obama, having named Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Chairman Karen Diver and Northwest (Alaska) Arctic Borough Mayor Reggie Joule to the new State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience, reiterated his commitment to working with tribes on the issues.

"The health of tribal nations depends on the health of tribal lands. So it falls on all of us to protect the extraordinary beauty of those lands for future generations," he said at the Tribal Nations Conference. <http://bit.ly/1i1RwUw> 

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‘He Was My Only Son’: Fort Peck Mother Calls for Congressional Inquiry

BY STEPHANIE WOODARD

The Montana Supreme Court has dismissed the wrongful-death lawsuit that Fort Peck tribal councilwoman Roxanne Gourneau filed against her local school board after her teenage son's suicide in 2010. Gourneau talked to Indian Country Today Media Network about her journey of the last three years and why she thinks Congress needs to scrutinize the schools her son attended in Wolf Point, a white-dominated town within the Fort Peck

Indian Reservation, in northeastern Montana.

The Wolf Point School District has long been regarded as troubled. She and her son paid a terrible price for the school district's long-term dysfunction, she said.

On November 23, 2010, Dalton Gourneau was a 17-year-old high school senior at Wolf Point High School. Just hours before he took his own life, the well-liked teen was kicked off the wrestling team, allegedly for possessing chewing tobacco. At the time, Dalton's mother recalled, he felt he had a good shot at a state wrestling championship. Participating in an upcoming tournament meant the world to him.

After Dalton learned he'd lost his place on the team, he went to several school officials to plead his case, she

said. When that proved unsuccessful, he wandered the school hallways for a while, walked home and shot himself.

A lower court hearing the wrongful-death suit found in favor of the school board in February 2013. Roxanne Gourneau appealed to the state's supreme court, which agreed with the lower court in October, ruling that school officials could not have foreseen the suicide and had no special custodial relationship with Dalton that made them liable for his death.

"To this day, they refuse any responsibility for what happened," said Gourneau, who also has a daughter. "I can't get it through my head. A dog would give its life to save a child. Where is their human decency?" <http://bit.ly/17P0Neh> 🌐


Vote to Change Timbisha Constitution Cancelled

BY GALE COUREY TOENSING

The Bureau of Indian Affairs in California has cancelled a vote on a proposed new Constitution for the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe that tribal leaders say would violate the existing Constitution and pave the way for individuals who are not eligible for tribal membership to vote, hold office and effectively take over the tribe.

In the latest turn in an ongoing leadership dispute, Timbisha Shoshone leaders at the tribe's Death Valley reservation filed two administrative appeals in mid-October with the federal government to stop the Secretarial Election – a referendum vote overseen by the BIA – scheduled for November 4 that it had authorized on the proposed new constitution. They said that the process leading up to the vote would violate federal regulations and the vote itself would illegally revise the existing Constitution to create new membership eligibility criteria that would allow non-Timbisha individuals to become tribal members. The appeals also ask Interior to recognize a tribal government elected according to the tribes' existing Constitution by eligible voting members.

The Indian Law Resource Center (ILRC) filed the appeals with the Interior Board of Appeals and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regional office in California on October 11 on behalf of Timbisha Shoshone Tribal Chairman Joe Kennedy and council members Grace Goad, Erick Mason, Pauline Esteves and Madeleine Esteves – “the last lawfully elected Chairman. ... [and] tribal council of the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe,” according to the center's Executive Director Robert Coulter. Kennedy and his council are based in Death Valley, California, where the tribe's 300-acre reservation is located.

Kennedy warned that every Native leader should take note of this case. “Because of unjustifiable BIA interference in the self-governance of the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, a block of voters with no known connection to the tribe may soon control a federally recognized Indian tribe,” he said. <http://bit.ly/18tXWw0> 

Yup'ik Villages Ravaged by Fierce Alaska Storms

Halfway across the world from the typhoon-ravaged Philippines, several small, remote communities at the northwestern tip of Turtle Island have been declared disaster areas from damage wrought by severe storms and flooding in mid-November.


The Yup'ik village of Kotlik, Alaska, along with Unalakleet and other predominantly Native communities, were ravaged beginning November 9 by a “series of four storms battered hundreds of miles of Alaska's west coast with near hurricane force winds, strong sea surges, freezing rain, and snow,” Governor Sean Parnell said in a press release announcing the declaration on November 16. The storms damaged villages along hundreds of miles of coastline, according to the Alaska Dispatch.

The governor's verbal disaster declaration frees up grants that can now be awarded from the Disaster Relief Fund that will be used to repair and restore public infra-

structure, as well as some homes.

With a nine-foot winter surge, the storms decimated food supplies that residents had stored for the winter, destroyed their vehicles and shattered sewer pipes, sending raw sewage flowing through the town, according to a resident who appealed for help on social media. Water from Pastol Bay also rushed in, sending more than 100 people, plus their pets, to the town's school to take shelter, Kotlik Mayor Thomas Sinka told the Alaska Dispatch.

“The town was actually a part of the ocean,” Sinka told the Alaska Dispatch on Monday, November 11. “I mean everything was underwater, and our rescue teams were trying to get to all of these people, but the flooding happened so fast we just couldn't.”

Search and rescue was hampered by sea ice that pushed into the town, Sinka said. Ice jams are now also littering the community. <http://bit.ly/1bIQ5Sb> 

Exploited Labor: Indigenous Children's Need to Work Despite Risks

BY SARA SHAHRIARI

On November 20 each year the United Nations marks Universal Children's Day to promote the welfare of children worldwide, including the 168 million people under the age of 18 who are involved in child labor.


The United Nations' International Labor Organization (ILO) defines child labor as “work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development.”

Most countries have national laws and accept international treaties governing the work young people can perform, but despite those regulations, law enforcement is often weak, and family incomes remain so low that children's contributions play a role in family survival.

People in North America or Europe may think of child labor as something that happens in sweatshops or other large scale, urban industries. But today it exists

mainly in the informal economy, a world that encompasses everyone from kids selling candy alone on busy city streets to children laboring long hours on family farms. This diffuse, ever-changing work force means that ending child labor is not as simple as shutting down factories that exploit hundreds of young people. And since poverty is one of the key problems driving them to work, forcing children out of jobs without providing an alternative income or support may drive them to even more dangerous, less visible work.

Beyond child labor is another category, the ‘worst forms of child labor,’ which includes slavery, sexual exploitation and extremely dangerous work.

“In indigenous populations you generally have a higher risk of child labor, especially the worst forms,” says Lars Johansen, a senior program officer for the ILO's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour. These worst forms can be difficult to address because they often take place out of sight, with children working in mines or on commercial farms, or exploited for prostitution or drug trafficking. <http://bit.ly/1cIckcy> 

Nisqually Tribe to Expand Red Wind Casino

Invests \$45 million in project

The Nisqually Tribal Council has approved a \$45 million expansion of its Nisqually Red Wind Casino including 42,700 square feet of new floor space and a new 600-space parking facility.

Construction is expected to begin in November and the new facilities will be open by December 2014. The expanded space will also include a smoke-free casino. Korsmo Construction, which built the Nisqually Tribal Center, will be the general contractor; KMB Design Groups is the architect.

About 70 new jobs will be created as a result of the expansion. <http://bit.ly/1aMwYZQ>

Congressman Won't Say 'Redskins'

Calls for Name-Change

"Mr. Speaker, George Washington himself respected the Native Americans of this country and their culture. Shouldn't the NFL team that bears his name do the same?" Respect was what Rep. Dan Maffei (D-NY) called for during a three-minute speech on the House floor in Washington, D.C., November 19. He refrained from uttering the word "Redskins," while arguing that the Washington NFL team should change its name.

"For many Native Americans across the land, the name of the Washington football team is a deeply personal reminder of a legacy of racism and generations of pain," Maffei said. <http://bit.ly/17UE5Mj>

Economic Growth

Tribal business buys company

The Potawatomi Business Development Corporation, the economic diversification arm of the Forest County Potawatomi, announced November 19 that the tribe's Securio Group, LLC, acquired Redhawk Network Engineering, Inc., a Bend, Oregon-based cybersecurity company.

Redhawk Network Engineering has merged with the Oklahoma-based security services company, Securio Group, a sister company of Advancia Corporation. A newly formed organization, Redhawk Network Security, LLC, will be the operating company moving forward. John Pelley, president, and Dave Lindemann, vice president, will manage the day-to-day operations.

This new organization makes it possible for Redhawk to grow, add personnel and support more research and development, the company said in a press release. The new company will also provide advancement and technical growth opportunities for all of Redhawk's employees. <http://bit.ly/1jsKbZq>

Jacob Oweetaluktuk

Nunavik pioneer and Inuit activist walks on

Jacob Oweetaluktuk, one of the founding members of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada—now known as Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)—walked on October 31. He was 76.

"Jacob Oweetaluktuk was an inspiration to Inuit as a young man, and as an elder, he showed us the way forward as we looked to chart the next 40 years of ITK," said ITK

president Terry Audla in a statement. "His words guided me during my life, and they live on in the work of our organization."

Oweetaluktuk served as secretary-treasurer for the Northern Quebec Inuit Association and later was on the Board of Governors of its successor, the Makivik Corporation. <http://bit.ly/14Lgec>

Tobacco Compact

Cherokee Nation creates new agreement

The Cherokee Nation Council has passed legislation to create a new tobacco compact with the State of Oklahoma. Titled "Cherokee Nation-State of Oklahoma Tobacco Tax Compact Act of 2013," the bill was signed into law by Principal Chief Bill John Baker on November 14.

The overall wording of the new compact gives a more competitive edge to smoke shop owners within Cherokee tribal jurisdiction in northeast Oklahoma and greater revenue to the Cherokee Nation as a whole. The State of Oklahoma is also allowed to collect 100 percent of its share of tax revenue upfront.

"It is going to be a win-win-win for all parties involved," said Baker in a released statement. <http://bit.ly/1bIS60w>

Employment Growth

SEEDS program helps tribes and communities

A recent grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' Administration for Children and Families is helping tribes create economic development projects focused on business opportunities and sustainable employment in Native communities.

Sustainable Employment and Economic Development Strategies, funded by the Administration for Native Americans in FY2013, dedicates \$4.5 million per year toward grants with a specific focus on job creation and training, business development and incubation, and retaining money and funds in the community or reservation.

"By improving access to employment and business development opportunities for tribal members who are struggling to make ends meet in this economy, SEEDS gives them the chance to work and participate in local jobs that will help improve their lives and those of their families," said ANA Commissioner Lillian Sparks. <http://bit.ly/1emGQL8>

Have Diabetes?

You should watch your eyes

Your family history is an important legacy for future generations, especially your family's health history. Good health, including eye health, allows you to watch your family and community grow and do the activities you enjoy, such as watching your children play, picking fruits and vegetables in your garden, or cheering on family members as they graduate from school. For people with diabetes, staying healthy is especially important.

American Indians and Alaska Natives are at higher risk for diabetes, as well as the complications for the disease. One of those complications is diabetic eye disease, a group of eye problems that can cause vision loss or blindness if left untreated. <http://bit.ly/18bWeo>

Supreme Problem

In a closely watched Supreme Court case, one tribe is being pressured to disregard sovereignty for the good of the whole **BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO**



The Supreme Court was scheduled to hear arguments in Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Community on December 2.

Bottom Line: *The Bay Mills Indian Community is continuing its fight for off-reservation gaming while maintaining its sovereignty. It is a decision that many feel could lead to endless complications in Indian country.*

When should tribal sovereignty for all trump the sovereignty of one tribe? That's a question many in Indian country are pondering as the U.S. Supreme Court reviews *Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Community*, a case that could trump tribal sovereign immunity and off-reservation gaming for all tribes.

The weighty scenario has its roots in

the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan with Bay Mills Indian Community citizens and leaders who believe they have the sovereign right to open a casino in Vanderbilt, Michigan, which is 111 miles away from their reservation but closer to a larger population base. Bay Mills opened a small gaming operation there in November 2010, but it closed in March 2011 after U.S. District Court Judge Paul Maloney issued a preliminary injunction shutting down the casino while the matter of its legality worked its way through the courts.

Bay Mills fought on, arguing that because the tribe used money from the

Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act of 1997 to buy the land for the Vanderbilt casino, it is protected Indian trust land, just like trust lands taken into trust for tribal casinos by the federal government. The tribe argues that the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA)—the 1988 law that legalized Indian gaming in the United States—contains a provision that allows such land to be designated “Indian land,” so federal law provides the loophole.

It is a loophole the tribe is more than willing to exploit; many tribes have received federal settlement monies in recent years. So if the argument is valid,

such tribes could be eligible to purchase their own trust lands without having to go through the long-lamented federal bureaucracy.

“Bay Mills apparently built the casino as a test case to determine the scope of its rights under the Michigan Indian Land Claims Act of 1997,” wrote Indian affairs lawyer Gabe Galanda in a recent opinion piece for Indian Country Today Media Network in which he expressed skepticism about the idea.

Both the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) and the Department of the Interior have issued opinions denying permission for the tribe to open the casino, saying in short that the federal government is supposed to have control over Indian gaming, not the tribes. But Bay Mills doesn’t much care about those opinions. That is because the tribe, like many others, believes it has the inherent right to conduct gaming on Indian lands as it sees fit, and that the federal and state governments are interfering because they want increased control over off-reservation matters that have never been resolved by Congress or the courts.

Indeed, many tribal citizens at Bay Mills and in Indian country in general view IGRA as not the beginning of tribes’ ability to conduct gaming, but as the beginning of the federal and state governments’ ability to legally take money away from such operations.

The state of Michigan also disagrees with the tribe’s argument, so it challenged the Vanderbilt casino. Under Maloney’s injunction, the state was initially successful. But in August 2012 the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals sided with the tribe’s assertion that tribal sovereign immunity prevented Michigan from suing the tribe. The casino issue was left alone for the moment, and sovereign immunity became the topic du jour.

In October 2012, Michigan asked the Supreme Court to review the case. The high court agreed to do so in June, despite Bay Mills working with the U.S. solicitor general to file a brief with the court asking it not to take the case. The court has now scheduled oral arguments for December 2. The justices could not only end up deciding whether federal courts have jurisdiction to tinker with

off-reservation casinos, they could also limit tribal sovereign immunity for all tribes—which, if the past is any indicator, is something that some of the justices would very much like to do.

The court, however, could rule that the tribe is right. Several tribes and Indian organizations, including the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), have filed *amicus* briefs with the court supporting the tribe’s case that its sovereign immunity should be protected.

State officials who are opposed to Indian gaming beyond Michigan think a

Everybody who is watching this case who is familiar with Indian law is hoping for the best, but preparing for the worst.’

ruling against Bay Mills could allow them to limit Indian gaming and sovereignty in their states. Some have filed *amicus* briefs supporting Michigan’s efforts against the tribe.

Indian country beyond Bay Mills has found itself in a difficult position. The easiest way to make the larger gaming and immunity problems go away would be for Bay Mills to waive its immunity, allow itself to be sued by Michigan, and then let lower courts decide the immunity issue and/or the legality of the casino. In fact, tribes, lobbyists and Indian legal experts have implored Bay Mills to do something—anything—to keep the case away from this clutch of justices.

“Stay away from the Supreme Court!” John Echohawk, director of NARF, and

Jefferson Keel, former president of the NCAI, said in a joint commentary released in early September. They hold to that position even if it means waiving sovereign legal immunity, the legal doctrine that prevents a sovereign tribe from being sued without the sovereign tribe’s consent and one of the major tenets of tribal sovereignty.

“[S]ince 2005, with the installment of John Roberts as Chief Justice, the retirement of Justices [Sandra Day] O’Connor, [David] Souter and [John Paul] Stevens, the tribes winning percentage has plummeted to 10 percent—with 1 win and 9 losses in the 10 Indian law cases heard by the Roberts Court,” wrote Echohawk and Keel in their guest post on the Turtle Talk blog. “And neither Chief Justice Roberts nor Justice [Samuel] Alito has voted in favor of tribal interests in a single case!”

The current mantra is to “retreat”—that is, to keep cases that could shift federal Indian policy in lower courts that have been more friendly to Indian country, and to let controversial issues be decided by Congress or the president and his policymakers.

Bay Mills leaders have rebuffed those suggestions, with tribal Chairman Kurt Perron saying that the tribe is “confident that the nation’s highest court will agree with our position.” After a November 6 election tie, the tribe is holding a new election December 10 to elect a chairman after the case will have already been argued before the Supreme Court. Perron is running, and while the election is pending, vic chair John Paul Lufkins is carrying out the chairman’s responsibilities. A tribal spokesman said he didn’t know whether any of the tribe’s new council or those running for chairman other than Perron would want to pull the case once the election matters are settled.

This summer, several national tribal advocates encouraged Bay Mills citizen Bryan Newland, a lawyer with Fletcher Law in Michigan who recently worked as a policy advisor on Indian affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, to ask the tribe’s membership to vote in favor of a resolution that would partially limit the tribe’s sovereign immunity.

Newland did so, but on September 5

the membership voted him down, indicating their immunity was too precious to their tribal sovereignty to waive in this instance. After that, Newland ran for and won the chief judge position at Bay Mills, and he will be traveling regularly from his home in lower Michigan where

Newland believes Michigan wants to use a negative Supreme Court decision to renegotiate several tribal-state gaming compacts that expire this year—something he wants to be sure outsiders of the tribe understand: “Michigan deserves a lot of blame here for elevating this case

blog commentaries to speeches at Indian events to impassioned conference calls to commentaries on ICTMN—have been urging the tribe to waive its immunity.

“It is unfortunate that some tribes who seek to build casinos far from their reservations are willing to risk the inherent



Bay Mills voted down citizen Bryan Newland's resolution to partially limit the tribe's sovereign immunity.

he works for the Fletcher firm, which is owned by Zeke Fletcher, a citizen of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and brother of Matthew L.M. Fletcher, the Michigan State University legal scholar who helps run the Turtle Talk Indian law blog.

Newland insists he did the right thing. “It’s not a pro-Indian Supreme Court, so why would they want to take this case unless it was to somehow limit tribal rights?” he says. “Everybody who is watching this case who is familiar with Indian law is hoping for the best, but preparing for the worst.”

to this level.”

Lawyers for Bay Mills have also been pressured by national tribal affairs experts to get leaders of the tribe to see the bigger picture but, to date, the tribe’s council has not backed down. Some of the national folks have gone so far as to ask the tribe’s lawyers to waive immunity without the council’s approval, according to sources who have listened in on conference calls with the lawyers on this matter.

All the while, tribal-federal relations experts and lawyers, in a variety of forums—from prestigious legal journals to

sovereign rights of all tribes,” wrote the tribal leaders of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe in a September op-ed published by ICTMN. “Once again, Indian country finds itself before the Supreme Court in a case that should have never been considered in the first place.” The leaders did not note that some of their own casino operations in Michigan could be affected if Bay Mills’ argument is upheld because the Vanderbilt casino would be closer to their casino operations; and they did not note that some of their own tribal decisions have

harmed other tribes in the past, such as when the Saginaw Tribe previously hired lobbyists involved with the infamous Jack Abramoff to try to limit gaming for other Michigan tribes.

Some Indian affairs experts have also attempted to paint this as a non-Indian takeover of the tribe that deserves to be shut down. At recent gatherings of NCAI and the United South and Eastern Tribes, one name kept emerging as an ostensible bogeyman—Mike Malik, a rich non-Indian tribal casino investor. Malik and Marian Ilitch, a wealthy business owner, reportedly helped the tribe pursue its land claims settlement in an effort to secure off-reservation casinos for the tribe that Malik and Ilitch would invest in. Malik has also been accused of manipulating tribal councils of other tribes he has worked with in order to get the councils to pursue his goals. According to his online biography, he has worked on behalf of several tribes to secure casinos. Malik has not returned requests for comment regarding the Bay Mills Supreme Court case.

Another solution to the dilemma would be for Indian-friendly federal officials to realize the potential problem a negative ruling could bring about for tribes as a whole, and thus find a reason to shut down Bay Mills' argument before the Supreme Court hears the case. NCAI, including John Dossett, have written to NIGC and Interior officials, trying to get them to intervene with no luck so far.

This route appears to be a dead end, with Kevin Washburn, current Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs at Interior, admitting the case has he and his fellow federal Indian trust holders consternated. "I can't talk about a matter in litigation," he told ICTMN in October. "I can say, I think, that I regret the Bay Mills Tribe has put us in this position. That's probably the most that I can say." Interior and NIGC officials have told Bay Mills that the federal position is that Indian gaming at Vanderbilt is illegal. Plus, federal officials say Interior is not really a regulatory authority, so it doesn't have broad authorities to stop tribes from opening casinos or other developments on off-reservation lands.

Bay Mills, meanwhile, is happy that Interior and the NIGC have not been able to

get involved and is chagrined that so much of Indian country has spent so much time arguing against the tribe's position.

"Don't you think this anti-Bay Mills advocacy [from tribes] could affect the Supreme Court's decision in a way that could hurt us all?" asked one Bay Mills citizen who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the council had not given the person permission to speak. "I think the tribes should have been lining up to defend our position so that tribes around the country could benefit if the Supreme Court does the right thing."

Tribal spokesman Allyn Cameron

*'Don't you think
this anti-Bay
Mills advocacy
could affect the
Supreme Court's
decision in a way
that could hurt
us all?'*

says that until a new chair is seated for the tribe after the chairman's election on December 10, the tribe will not have any more official comment on the case.

But Richard Guest, a legal expert with NARF, says it has been "quite difficult" for many tribal interests to figure out how to support the Bay Mills position while protecting Indian immunity and gaming policy. Several briefs have been filed in support of the tribe—one by Indian legal professors, one by NCAI and NARF's Supreme Court project, and another filed by nine tribes, headed by the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

The Justice Department also weighed in with an *amicus* brief supporting the tribe's sovereign immunity, and Deputy


United States Solicitor General Edwin Kneedler will argue on behalf of the federal support of Bay Mills for 10 minutes during oral arguments. Neal Katyal, former Acting Solicitor General of the United States, will be arguing on behalf of Bay Mills the rest of the time.

Only one other tribe, the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, has received intense pressure from Indian country for it to waive its sovereign immunity in recent times to avoid the Supreme Court. (Oneida Indian Nation owns Oneida Nation Enterprises, the parent company of ICTMN.) In that instance, the tribal nation agreed to waive its immunity after a writ of certiorari had been granted by the Supreme Court in *Madison County v. Oneida Indian Nation of New York*. After the tribe waived its immunity, the Supreme Court remanded the case back to the lower courts to consider the merits of the case—a result that pleased some Indian affairs watchers, who didn't want Indian gaming policy to be affected nationwide by a Supreme Court decision that would be bad for tribes.

Joseph Webster, an Indian Affairs lawyer with Hobbs Straus, said it is definitely unusual for tribes to waive immunity to avoid going to the Supreme Court, but that it is an option more will likely consider.

"However," he added, "many Indian tribal governments routinely waive their immunity in a variety of circumstances, such as commercial transactions and agreements with other governments. The federal government and state governments also routinely waive their immunity. The act of waiving immunity is an exercise of sovereignty, since the government that grants the waiver controls the scope and duration of the waiver."

Bay Mills tribal leaders and citizens, meanwhile, say that all the scrutiny has been tough, but they also say their tribe is accustomed to being a go-it-alone tribe, fighting for its sovereignty on its own terms. And they truly believe the Supreme Court will be convinced of their argument.

As for the detractors from other tribes and lobbyists, the tribe has chosen not to fight back. "Bay Mills will not make any negative comment about other tribes," said Kathryn Tierney, a lawyer for the tribe. <http://bit.ly/1i8V6w3> 

What's On Bullock's Mind

The governor of Montana holds forth **BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO**

Bottom Line: *Democratic Governor Steve Bullock of Montana, who took office in January, has just awarded \$2 million to tribes in his state to support their language preservation efforts. In an interview with Indian Country Today Media Network, he discusses the award, which he sees as just a starting point for such funding, as well as tribal federal recognition for the Little Shell Tribe and the highly contentious issue of satellite voting offices in his large state.*

Native Americans have long been pushing for increased funding for language preservation, noting that language is the building block of their unique cultures. What got your attention here?

Talking to some of the leaders of our Indian nations about the loss of language and the importance of preservation has made me realize that we need to have effective education in this area across the state. Greater than the conversations with the tribal leaders, I think about my oldest daughter who is in sixth grade. Not that many years ago in Montana, we finally started to get more serious about Indian education for all. Caroline, my daughter, has a better sense of our Indian nations in Montana—and the incredibly important role that they play—than I did through high school and even college. It's more than part of our heritage, it's part of our path forward.

Why do you think Montana schools are doing a better job teaching about American Indians?

I think our legislature is becoming more aware of its importance. The legislature has funded programs that have begun at the tribal level. By putting the dollars in and saying that all children should know the role that American Indians have played in Montana, and not just historically, but today—I think that made a big difference.

Tribal leaders have long been asking the federal government to do more for tribal language preservation. Do you think your plan will give the federal government an example to follow?

I think that we need to make sure that culture is preserved. Part of that culture is the vital tribal languages. We do not want to lose that. I recognize that there are tremendous needs across the board for Indian country at the federal level, but this is a need that I think is significant enough to focus on.

I think that we need to make sure that culture is preserved. Part of that culture is the vital tribal languages.

What other Indian issues are on your radar?

I put economic development in Indian country as a priority. When we launched our effort to make a better business plan for the state, we made sure Indian country was included. I have appointed American Indians to some key roles and offices. We have also been able to increase dollars for tribal college assistance programs, and support the costs of non-beneficiary students at tribal colleges. I think we're off to a real good start, but there is certainly much more to do.

The Little Shell Tribe, which is receiving funding under your language preservation plan, continues to fight for federal recognition. What is your position?

At the state level, we recognized them long ago, and we give them all of the opportunities to get state dollars as we do federally recognized tribes. Their flag flies with all the other tribal flags in my office. A month ago, I met with their governing council to talk about how we can do more to push for their federal recognition. We are all hopeful.


Do you think the Native vote will play an important factor in the upcoming House and Senate races?

I both think and hope it will. As attorney general, I made the commitment to meet on a government-to-government basis as many times as necessary. I forged some good friendships and strong working relationships. Certainly, I think that the Indian vote makes a difference in getting people elected.

When you were attorney general in Montana you issued an advisory opinion that told the secretary of state that setting up satellite offices on reservations across the state would be legal and doable, but she has instead fought Indian efforts to establish such offices. Are you disappointed?

There is still ongoing litigation that I certainly don't want to talk about in the middle of it. But we really do need to make sure that all Montanans have the opportunity to vote. We're a state of 147,000 square miles. We need to make voting easier and more accessible to all Montanans, especially those of our tribal nations.

Is there anything more that you could be doing as governor to get the satellite offices established in more Indian country areas in your state?

Once the litigation is done, we need to make sure voting – there are places where it's an hour and a half to the county seat if somebody wants to early vote – is definitely accessible to everyone. <http://bit.ly/18039Fl> 

Building Relationships

Turkish official encourages tribal-Turkey partnerships **BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO**

Bottom Line: *The first-of-its-kind grant from the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) has awarded \$200,000 to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation to benefit the community's ongoing school project, while strengthening the partnership relations between Turkey and Indian country.*

The Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) has awarded a \$200,000 grant to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation in an effort to help the tribe meet its water needs over the next ten years. In an interview with Indian Country Today Media Network, Serdar Çam, president of TIKA within the office of the Turkish prime minister, discussed the first-of-its-kind award from the agency and ongoing efforts to generate more economic partnerships between Turkey and tribes.

How was the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation chosen to receive the grant?

The application process began after a grant announcement was released via the National American Indian Housing Council's (NAIHC) mailing list in September 2012. The Turkish Coalition of America, a Washington, D.C. based nonprofit that aims to foster better understanding of U.S.-Turkey relations, facilitated the grant submission and review process and collected applications through October 2012. A total of 32 proposals were submitted and reviewed by an independent panel comprised of Native Americans on a point scale based on how the project met the needs of the community, estimated impact in the short and long term, and overall objectives. When all entries were tallied, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation was the top scorer, and was therefore selected as the recipient of the first grant by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency, an agency within the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey.

What does the tribe plan to do with the grant?

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Or-

egon are currently building an 80,000 square foot elementary school facility on their reservation that will serve 648 children in K-8th grade. The TIKA grant will aid with the construction of a 500,000-gallon water tank to meet the water demands of the growing student population over the next 10 years. Moreover, the tribes' current water resources are inadequate to fully protect lives and structures on the reservation and the water tank that will be built with TIKA funds is also necessary for protection against fire in high risk areas.

How will you measure the success of the grant?

The TIKA delegation has already paid a visit to the reservation and will stay in close contact with the tribes to ensure the construction timeline is met and the funds are expended per the agreement.

More broadly, do you think that ties are growing between Turkey and Indian country?

There has always been an affinity among Turks towards Native Americans due to certain similarities ranging from rug motifs to family structures. The development of a more structured and consistent approach to expanding ties between Turkey and Indian country, however, began first with the Turkish Coalition of America's Study Abroad Scholarships to Native American college and graduate students who chose Turkey as their study abroad destination. A total of 16 scholarships have been awarded to Native American students since the inception of the TCA scholarship program in 2008. The educational exchanges paved the way for cultural, political and economic exchanges between Tribes as TCA coordinated multiple trips to facilitate growing ties between Turkey and the tribes.

Legislation that would help strengthen the economic relationship between Turkey and Indian country has not been able to make it through the U.S. Congress. Why do you think that is?

The legislation introduced [last year] by Mr. Tom Cole (R-Oklahoma) is a welcome first

step in cementing the growing ties between Turkey and Indian country. The sole purpose of this legislation was to involve Native Americans and private companies from all over, World Trade Organization countries, in a way to develop a new understanding that will eventually bolster economic growth in Indian country. The legislation, which was supported by nearly two-thirds of House members, unfortunately did not meet the required majority due to opposition by some members on issues extraneous to the legislation itself. Regardless, we continue to explore ways to deepen and strengthen the relations between Turkey and Native American communities, with the awareness that this will not just help the Native Americans, but will also bring a new dimension to the strategic partnership between Turkey and our friend and ally the United States.

Finally, will Turkey be giving more tribal grants in the future?

TIKA was established in 1992 to provide development assistance to countries to improve cooperation through projects and programs in economic, commercial, technical, social, cultural and educational arenas. TIKA currently maintains 26 coordination offices in 23 countries across Africa, Asia, and Europe. This is the first TIKA grant to North America. Earlier this year, TIKA provided a grant to Strategies for International Development (SID) to assist poverty alleviation efforts in Peru, Guatemala and Bolivia. TIKA grants aim to facilitate economic, commercial, technical, social, cultural and educational cooperation with recipient countries via development assistance projects. In fulfillment of its mission, TIKA works to enhance infrastructure; improve living standards; provide vocational training and employment; protect cultural heritage and improve cultural relations; and strengthen information and publishing services. While this is the first grant by TIKA to the tribes, there may be other opportunities in the future for the Turkish Agency to collaborate with Indian country.

This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity. 🌿



When temperatures Yellowstone National Park dropped below freezing last week, this bison woke up with a frost blanket.



Former National Hockey League Coach of the Year Ted Nolan, Ojibwe, has rejoined the Buffalo Sabres as interim head coach.



A blockade against development on a Musqueam burial site by sisters Cecilia and Mary Point has ended with the tribal purchase of the land.



Gov. Steve Bullock of Montana (right) has emphasized collaboration with tribes during his first eight months in office.

TIM TOWNSEND/COURTESY TUMBLR/DOI.JPG; CHRISTOPHER SZAGOLA/CAL SPORT MEDIA/AP IMAGES; DAVID P. BALL; AP IMAGES

Program/Development Officer Position

Work for the only national, Native community foundation focused exclusively on American Indian land recovery and management!

Indian Land Tenure Foundation is seeking a **Program/Development Officer**.

Reporting to the President of the Foundation, the Program/Development Officer will identify, cultivate, solicit and steward program initiatives in one or more of the foundation's strategic funding areas: education, economic development, cultural awareness and legal reform. The Program/Development Officer will be fully engaged in both programs and fundraising, including but not limited to: the creation and implementation of Foundation programs, grants management, provision of direct services to a variety of clients, development of communication and educational materials, leading the fundraising for each assigned program, reporting to funders of the programs, and measuring the effectiveness of the assigned programs.

Salary will depend upon qualifications. Generous benefits, including paid PTO, paid dental and health insurance and 401(k) plan. This position is located in Little Canada, Minnesota.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: January 6, 2014 or until filled

Visit ILTF's website to learn more at www.iltf.org/news.

Please submit your resume with a letter of interest and salary requirements via e-mail to pchase@iltf.org or mailed to the following address:

Patricia Chase
Indian Land Tenure Foundation
151 County Road B-2, East
Little Canada, Minnesota 55117-1523

Indian Land Tenure Foundation is an At Will, Equal Opportunity Employer.

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE (CRST) EDUCATION DEPARTMENT EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Performs a wide variety of supervisory and administrative work in implementing the educational objectives and programs for the CRST. Facilitates a school consortium on or near the Reservation concerning the education of its students. Develops an education network that assists the Tribe in identifying and reviewing education problems and issues. Develops options or forums on education as directed by the Education Committee and Tribal Council.

A minimum of a Master's Degree in Education Administration required. A South Dakota State Superintendent endorsement preferred.

A minimum of five (5) years professional experience. Qualifying experience required in teaching, school administration, or other professional education experience related to the position.

Must possess a valid driver's license, transportation, and insurance. Subject to CRST Drug Testing Policy, subject to Tribal/Local, Federal and State background checks in accordance with P.L. 101-630, P.L. 101-647, and Resolution No. 86-2013_CR. Tribal and Indian Preference in hiring shall be preferred.

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
PO Box 590
Eagle Butte, SD 57625
(605) 964-4818 Phone
(605) 964-1122 Fax
humanresources@crst-nsn.gov

Planning Positions

The Quinault Indian Nation Department of Planning and Community Development is seeking to fill the positions listed below. The positions are for a limited duration of three years, to carry out the Upper Village of Taholah Master Plan. The Upper Village of Taholah Master Plan process will include community visioning, conditions assessments, community and public space design, infrastructure engineering, public building design, financial planning, and code and policy updates.

QIN Employment applications are available at <http://www.quinaultindiannation.com/jobs.htm> and will be accepted until **COB on 11/26/13**. Please mail application, resume, and cover letter addressing the job description, experience, and how your experience will contribute to the Upper Village of Taholah Master Plan to QIN HR PO BOX 189 Taholah, WA 98587, or fax (360) 276-4191. For more information or to obtain a full job description please call (360) 276-8211 ext. 577.

- Senior Planner
- Associate Planner
- Planning Assistant

Msgr. John P. O'Brien HDFC Senior Apartments

Beginning on Nov. 25, 2013 our 112-unit building at 4112 Ft. Hamilton Parkway,

Brooklyn, N.Y. will be re-opening its waiting list to the elderly, where the head or spouse is 62 or older and non-elderly persons with disabilities with limited income.

Qualifications for the 112 units, which include 12 units for the mobility-impaired, will be based on Section 8 guidelines. Interested persons may obtain an application by writing to:

**Msgr. John P. O'Brien Apartments
C/o Progress of Peoples Management
Corporation
191 Joralemon Street, 8th Floor
Brooklyn, New York 11201**

Or in person at 4112 Ft. Hamilton Parkway; Brooklyn, NY 11219; leave contact information.

All applications will be mailed.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT BY REGULAR MAIL TO THE POST OFFICE BOX INDICATED ON THE APPLICATION FORM. APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE POST OFFICE NO LATER THAN DEC. 14, 2013.



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For detailed job descriptions and employment application:

Please call:
Corita Hughes 541-902-6504

Mail cover letter, application and resume to:

Confederated Tribes of the
Coos-Lower Umpqua-Siuslaw
5647 Hwy 126
Florence, OR 97439



<http://ctclusi.org/jobs>

Headlines from the Web

**MOHEGAN SUN CASINO POSTS
PLUNGE IN 4Q PROFIT**

<http://nbcnews.to/1fr3vcf>

**CONFEDERATED TRIBES
PROPOSE GAMING FACILITY**

<http://bit.ly/18txVqf>

**WHITE EARTH BAND VOTES
TO END 'BLOOD QUANTUM'
FOR TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP**

<http://bit.ly/1fh3OGC>

**DECISION ON FEDERAL RECOGNITION
FOR PAMUNKEY INDIAN TRIBE
DELAYED ONCE AGAIN**

<http://bit.ly/1iuPJVS>

**CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES STRIVE TO
INCLUDE INDIGENOUS CULTURES**

<http://nyti.ms/17DFN4L>

**BYRON DORGAN: COMMISSION ON
NATIVE CHILDREN WILL BE WELCOME**

<http://bit.ly/14mQBI>

Upcoming Events

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN
AFFAIRS HEARING NOVEMBER 29**

SCIA will hear live testimony on reclaiming Native identity. The hearing is titled "Reclaiming Our Image and Identity for the Next Seven Generations" and will take place at 2:15 p.m. and will be streamed at indian.senate.gov.

Location: Dirksen Senate Office Building, room 628, Washington, D.C.

**PORTRAIT STORY DAYS: SITTING
BULL NOVEMBER 30**

Beginning on November 30 from 1 – 4 p.m. and continuing on selected Saturdays and Sundays, the Smithsonian

National Museum of the American Indian will share the story about Sitting Bull, and how his life has influenced American history and culture as part of the American Indian Heritage Month celebrations.

Location: Education Center, 1st Floor, Room E151, Smithsonian NMAI

**FEMA PROPOSED TRIBAL
CONSULTATION POLICY
WEBINAR DECEMBER 3**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be holding the webinar, from 1 – 5 p.m., for tribal leaders to establish a clear process by which FEMA officials engage Indian tribes and tribal officials in regular and meaningful consultation on FEMA actions that have direct tribal implications.

Location: Online webinar

**CDFI FUND TRIBAL CONSULTATION
DECEMBER 3**

The Community Development Financial Institutions Fund has contracted with GBS, an Alaska Native Village Corporation to facilitate discussions and prepare a study on Access to Capital & Credit in Native Communities. Leaders of tribal governments, tribally owned, Native-owned and Alaska Native Corporation businesses; national Native and tribal community organizations; economic development practitioners; financial services institutions; and policy makers should attend from 10:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The event is part of the 23rd Annual BIA Providers Conference.

Location: Dena'ina Center, Anchorage, Alaska

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A special event took place on November 11, 2013 at the 5th Annual Lori Piestewa Tribute in Phoenix, Arizona, the family of Lori Piestewa accepted a plaque presented by the Sister Nations Color Guard. A patch was also given to the family and in return gave SNCG the blessing to affix the patch on their color guard attire on behalf of their late daughter, Lori. With her family present, friends and fellow veterans

witnessed a very special ceremony. Spc. Lori Piestewa was inducted into the Sister Nations Color Guard as an honorary member. The plaque reads...

"The Sister Nations Color Guard extends its membership to a fallen sister who lived and fought for those she loved. As a sister in arms, we will dance with you always in spirit to carry on your beautiful memory."

This is a great honor that SNCG has

been placed with. We will uphold that honor in her memory and pay tribute in the highest regard for her and her family. Thank you Piestewa Family and Jackson Harris for allowing all this to be possible in our journey to making a difference for all our sister warriors, all veteran and Native communities and our country.

— Angel Young, color guard member
Bismarck, N.D.

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

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians



Office of the Executive Services Attorney

Position Available

The primary function of the Office of the Executive Services Attorney is to provide legal advice to the Tribal Chair and assist the Tribal Chair in carrying out the duties of the Executive Branch. The Office shall maintain impartiality of Executive policy to be determined by the Tribal Chair, and shall not advocate the adoption or rejection of any policy decision. The Office shall maintain the attorney client relationship with respect to all communications between it and the Tribal Chair and shall serve as the attorney for the Tribal Chair in any court action.

Qualifications:

Must be a licensed attorney to practice law in the state of Michigan or an attorney who possesses a license to practice law in another state and obtains a license to practice law in the state of Michigan within twelve (12) months of hire. Must have 8 years' experience with Tribal and Federal Indian law. Knowledge of the history, culture, laws, rules, customs and traditions of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. Knowledge of legal research methods, legal research software, and use of databases. Skilled in interpreting and applying statutes, ordinances and other laws.

For a complete job description visit our website at www.ltbodawa-nsn.gov

Please send application(available on website), resume and cover letter to: **LTBB HUMAN RESOURCES • 7500 ODAWA CIRCLE • HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740 PHONE: 231-242-1555 • EMAIL: hr@ltbodawa-nsn.gov**

We Need Your Input!

We need your comments to help us define the scope and alternatives for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on a proposal by NextEra Energy Resources to expand its wind energy facilities in Burleigh County, southeast of Wilton, and northeast of Baldwin, North Dakota. The proposed Wilton IV Wind Energy Center will include up to 58 wind turbine generators, an underground power collection system, access roads, and a collector substation. The proposed layout has been adjusted to include turbines to the east and southeast of Regan and to include approximately 15 miles of 230-kV overhead transmission line. Construction of the Wilton IV Wind Energy Center is proposed to begin in Spring 2015.

Western Area Power Administration will host a public scoping meeting to help define the scope of the Wilton IV Wind Energy Center Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. The meeting location is handicapped accessible.

Please join us to learn more about this project and to share your ideas:

5 to 8 pm, Wednesday, December 11, 2013
Wilton Memorial Hall, 105 Dakota Avenue, Wilton, ND 58579

Need More Info?

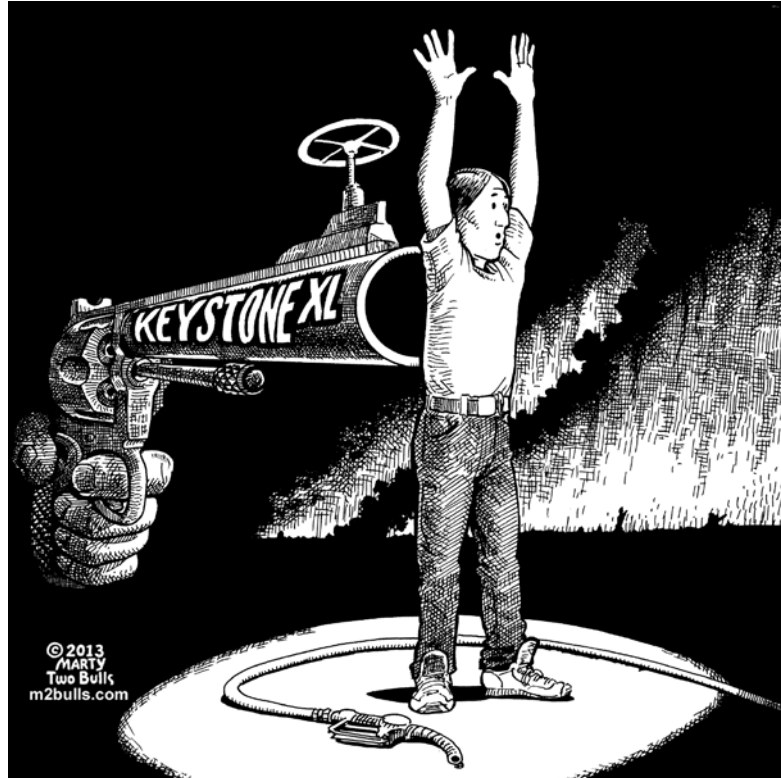
For more information or to be added to the project mailing list, contact: Matt Marsh, Environmental Protection Specialist
 Western Area Power Administration
 PO Box 35800, Billings, MT 59107-5800
 Tel: (406) 255-2811 | Email: mmarsh@wapa.gov

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TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

PRINCIPLE APOLOGIZES FOR 'TRAIL OF TEARS' BANNER

It's been the banner read 'round the social media world. The 20-foot-tall "Hey Indians, Get Ready to Leave in a Trail of Tears, Round 2" banner was displayed at a McAdory High School football game on November 15 and since caused outrage online. November 18, McAdory High School Principal Tod Humphries issued an apology on the school's website and on November 19 he reached out to ICTMN. He said he wanted to ensure the public he felt remorseful about the incident and that the sign was a mistake, not malicious. "I know this perception is not out there right now, but it is not who we are," Humphries said.

NYT ARTICLE ASKS WHERE 'REDSKINS' LOGO CAME FROM

The New York Times asked a pointed question recently in its editorial: Who made

that Redskins Logo?

The story behind the logo as told by the Times began with players painting their faces, a half-time band marching in tribal regalia; a coach, William Henry "Lone Star" Dietz wearing feathers on the sidelines; and an Indian-head logo printed across the uniforms in 1933 that continued until 1937. George Preston Marshall, the team's first owner, according to law professor and historian J. Gordon Hylton, was the only owner who felt it was acceptable to use an American Indian name.

WORLD'S OLDEST ANIMAL - DEAD

In a major scientific faux pas, scientists have discovered that they not only killed the world's oldest creature, they also incorrectly dated it. In 2006, when it was discovered in North Wales and opened by scientists, Ming the Mollusk was thought to have been 405 years old. Further study has revealed it

to have actually been 507 years old at the time of its demise. The discovery made it into the Guinness Book of World Records. That puts Ming's date of birth sometime in 1499—just seven years after Christopher Columbus landed in the New World.

WAMPANOAG IN PLYMOUTH THANKSGIVING PARADE

For the first time ever, members of the Wampanoag Tribe will participate in the annual America's Hometown Thanksgiving Parade in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The Patriot Ledger reports that this year's parade theme will celebrate "heroes from every era of the nation's history" – an idea that grew from honoring Boston Marathon bombing victims and first responders. Squanto, a Patuxet Indian who helped the Pilgrims survive their first winter, and the Wampanoag Tribe, Paul Revere, John and Abigail Adams and Presi-

dent John F. Kennedy are also among those to be honored. Members of the Wampanoag Tribe will lead the parade, as it depicts history chronologically.

QUESTIONS FOR MASS. CASINO HOPEFULS

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) is vetting applications for three Class III casino-resorts in the state, one each in Region A (Eastern Massachusetts), Region B (Western Massachusetts) and Region C (Southeastern Massachusetts). As the complex application process continues, it is unclear who will be left at the table come time to issue the licenses. Although the MGC does not anticipate a shortfall in applicants, it could in fact end up with no acceptable applicants for one or more regions. The process would then start over and in that case, presumably tribes, whether former or new applicants, could ante up for another round.

UPCOMING POW WOWS

Chambers Farm 35th Annual Thanksgiving Family Pow Wow

November 28 - December 01,

22400 NW Hwy 315,

Ft. McCoy, Florida

Contact: Michael Brill

352-546-2984

chambersfarmpowwow@yahoo.com

ChambersFarm.org

43rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Pow Wow

November 28 - November 29,

5811 Jack Springs Road,

Atmore, Alabama

Contact: 251-368-9136

PoarchCreekIndians-NSN.gov

Cabazon Indio Pow Wow

November 29 - December 01,

Cabazon Indian Reservation Special Event Center,

Indio, California

Contact: Judy Stapp

760-238-5770

jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov

FantasySpringsResort.com

9th Annual Choctaw Casino Resort Pow Wow

November 29 - November 30,

Choctaw Event Center,

Durant, Oklahoma

Contact: 580-920-0160

ChoctawCasinos.com

Winter Gathering Pow Wow

December 06 - December 08,

Spotlight 29 Casino Showroom,

Coachella, California

Contact: Earl Thomas

760-775-5566

ethomas@spotlight29.com

SpotLight29.com

The 9th Annual Native American Indian Pow Wow

December 07,

Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center,

College Park, Maryland

Contact: Dottie Chicquelo

(301) 405-5618

chicodh@umd.edu

www.omse.umd.edu

Chemawa's Craft Show

December 07,

Chemawa Indian School,

Salem, Oregon

Contact: Karen Serna

503-399-5721 ext. 225

karen.serna@bie.edu

Chemawa.BIE.edu

White River Christmas Pow Wow

December 23 - December 25,

Northern Cheyenne Tribal School Gym,

Busby, Montana

Contact: L. Jace Killsback

406-477-4857

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Bobby June, attached to the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Panama City Division, danced a ceremonial Observance of Sacred Feathers with full regalia on November 13.

SUSAN TRAHAN/NSWC PCD

THE BIG PICTURE