



# Indian Country

THIS WEEK FROM

## TODAY

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

### *A Letter from the Publisher*

*Shekóli.* If you're about to read this issue of This Week From Indian Country Today, you most likely understand the power of information generated from the Indian perspective—not to mention the entertaining and uplifting subjects that we present each week. This issue will not fail on either count, and contains some valuable news coverage for tribal leaders and citizens within our nations, and people outside our communities who seek to understand how our worlds intersect.

Capping a high-profile case that has wended its way through all layers of litigation, the Supreme Court recently passed down a 5-4 decision affirming that tribal sovereign immunity stymied the state of Michigan's interest in suing the Bay Mills Indian Community over what the state saw as an off-reservation casino. Many federal Indian law observers felt the defendant's arguments as potentially putting the full breadth of sovereign immunity in US courts at risk, while proponents of the strategy argued that the logic of the Bay Mills case would triumph over political expediency. Now it remains for Supreme Court watchers to look for positive and negative interpretations of the majority and minority opinions presented by the court. It's all presented and analyzed in this week's report with the typical savvy we hope you've come to expect from our DC news bureau.

Equally compelling, and with plenty of material to sift through, comes the publication of a proposed set of new rules from the Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding the federal recognition of Indian



nations. ICTMN engaged Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary of the Interior/Indian Affairs and the architect of the rule changes, in an exclusive interview to discuss some of the principal issues—which have long been criticized by Indians and anti-tribal forces alike as unfair and costly—and how he hopes the drafted regulations will resolve major contentions. To wit: moving the political continuity requirement from 1789 to 1934, the year of the federal Indian Regulatory Act. The process by which the United State government engages in a nation-to-nation relationship with a petitioning tribal nation is complex, and multi-faceted. That's why we put energy in trying to present the Native point of view, together with links and resources that help inform the occasional student and those more expert.

Leveraging a nation-to-nation relationship is not just about understanding sovereignty. It helps to know how the other government operates, and what its objectives are—and we hope the writers, thinkers and leaders who appear on ICTMN and in this newsletter will continue to help illuminate critical points in this relationship.

*Ná k'í wa,*

Ray Halbritter

### Table of *Contents*



2 COMMENTARY

3 NEWS

7 WASHBURN ON RECOGNITION

9 BAYS MILLS BEATS MICHIGAN

10 THE LEGACY OF SONNY JIM

11 WEEK IN PHOTOS

12 TRADEWINDS CLASSIFIEDS

13 WEB, EVENTS, LETTERS

15 CARTOON, NEWS ALERTS

17 UPCOMING POW WOWS

18 THE BIG PICTURE

## Put Down the Peace Pipe

*Carolina Castoreno, president of the Native American Student Alliance at Indiana University-Purdue University, inveighs against the “Peace Pipe” video recently released by Emerson Windy:*

In this video, Windy is dressed in “indigenous attire” and raps about passing a peace pipe. Let’s start with the fact that Emerson mixes the regalia of a headman, medicine man, and a brave all together. Talk about an identity crisis. This is the problem with wanting to play dress-up; people can’t even get that part right. If you wanted to portray a football

player, would you also carry a baseball bat or a hockey stick? Why in 2014 is it still trendy to put on “Indian” costumes?

So you want play Indian? You want “smoke ‘em good peace pipe?” Please, pile on the stereotypes. A peace pipe is not a recreational tool to give you a good buzz. The pipe is a gift from our Mother Earth to be used ceremoniously only. It is not a plaything. When you portray it as just another vehicle for getting high, you perpetuate the negative imagery that society paints on Natives, that we are all drunks and like to “smoke

peyote.” News flash: We don’t smoke it. What you are doing is equivalent to someone using a rosary or prayer beads in a sacrilegious manner. It demeans our spiritual beliefs.

I read Mr. Windy’s bio on his official site. He appears to enjoy philanthropy and spreading awareness about causes such as homelessness. Those are very commendable acts. The bio also states that Emerson likes to “push the limits.” Well, he has indeed pushed the limits with the Native community. Not even Native rappers would dare insult our elders or ancestors by playing dress-up in a music video. <http://bit.ly/1r9BAEk> ☞

## The Rights of Native Prisoners

*Gabriel Galanda, founder of the activist group Huy, questions the silence of the State Department on matters of Native prisoners’ rights.*

In 2012, the United States acknowledged that “[i]ndigenous representatives and some representatives of civil society have raised a number of particular concerns” including “religious freedom for prisoners at the federal and state levels,” and promised that “[t]he Administration is aware of these concerns and is working to address them.” But the federal government has not honored its word. The White House has not yet even consulted with American tribal governments in regard to those concerns, despite the National Con-

gress of American Indians’ resolution that the U.S. “explore how federal, state, and American indigenous governments can jointly develop and advance shared penological goals in regard to incarcerated American Indigenous Peoples.”

In June 2013, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples wrote the State Department, requesting that within 60 days the federal government “provide any additional information it deems relevant to the situation.” The Special Rapporteur posed a series of questions, including, “[W]hat legal, policy or programmatic actions, if any, have federal and state Government authorities taken to ensure that Native

American prisoners are able to engage in religious ceremonies and traditional practices as well as have access to religious items in state and local prisons?”

Almost a year later, the State Department has yet to in any way respond. That is why NCAI President President Cladoosby recently “called out” the State Department, requesting answers, and consultation.

The United States’ continued silence is indicative of its and its sibling states’ failing, to respect the right of American indigenous prisoners to freely exercise their religion, and to afford those prisoners with effective remedies when state correctional agencies and officers violate their guaranteed rights. <http://bit.ly/1gEUwWL> ☞

## The New First Nations Social Contract

*David Peerla, a political advisor to the Nishnawbe Aski Nation, considers the signing of a Framework Agreement that would open up Ontario’s Far North to mineral development—the so-called “Ring of Fire”:*

Big business needs a new social contract to stabilize the business environment. Governments need First Nations to develop their own sources of revenue to fund their own social expenditures.

On the surface, these strategies seem progressive, in that they are focused on redistribution of wealth through revenue sharing. But they are really a containment strategy akin to the transition from wild-

cat strikes to national labor legislation in the 1930s. Just as the right to strike was contained within the right to labor peace in collective bargaining, so have the demands of First Nations for sovereignty.

The enlightened Canadian elites, fearing indigenous resistance, most famously represented in the Idle No More movement, are creating a First Nations social contract reform agenda that includes resource revenue sharing, project equity, an elaborate consultation process, all designed to blunt the more radical demands of indigenous sovereignty movements for real decision making and control of natural resources on their lands.

Taking a page out of the new corporate collaboration agenda that saw environmentalists make peace with forest companies, the new First Nations social contract embraces those aims most consistent with the free market and forecloses development paths that threaten business as usual.

But as environmentalists discovered, there is a difference between a deal and success. The new First Nations social contract will now be doubly vulnerable to both the limits of the government budgets and the cyclical ebb and flow of markets for commodities. Mines have a limited lifetime. Oil runs out. An economic crisis limits government expenditures, no matter how well intentioned. <http://bit.ly/SkWXmf> ☞

## Navajo Nation's Ben Shelly Ready to Run Again for President

BY ALYSA LANDRY

Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly is hoping for four more years as the tribe's top executive. He filed his candidacy paperwork on May 16, making him the seventh presidential candidate to complete the application process.

Shelly, who served as vice president from 2007 to 2011 under former president Joe Shirley Jr., took office as the tribe's seventh president in January 2011. He is the first person to be elected as both president and vice president. He and Vice President Rex Lee Jim, who has served with Shelly for the last four years, jointly announced their intention to run for re-election during events held this month in their home communities.

Shelly and Jim, who won the 2010 election with a 5 percent margin, touted a list of accomplishments since they took office, including business and technological developments across the 27,000-square-mile reservation. Since 2011, the tribe has made economic and infrastructure gains in the form of casinos, increased broadband services and the purchase of the BHP-Bililiton Mine.

The tribe also celebrated unprecedented agreements with the federal government, including the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and the amended Robert T. Stafford Act, which allows tribes to appeal directly to the government for assistance with emergency declarations.

Shelly will face at least six candidates in the August 26 primary election, including former president Joe Shirley Jr., and career politician Donald Benally, of Shiprock, New Mexico. Benally came in third during the 2010 presidential election, after Shelly and former New Mexico state senator Lynda Lovejoy, who was vying to become the tribe's first female president. The general election is November 4. <http://bit.ly/1hyrqDF> ☞



## Denise's Health Insurance Story

Last year Denise, an Alaska Native who lives in Washington DC, was uninsured. She could use IHS services, but the nearest clinic was hours away. She needed more options. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act and the special provisions for American Indians and Alaska Native shareholders, she qualified for free health care. Signing up took her only 20 minutes.

"Once I finally got insurance I felt relieved... Having [insurance] has helped me have options for preventative care and I'm not waiting until I'm really sick to be seen. I am actually going to the doctor before things get worse." - Denise

Learn more: contact your Indian health clinic, visit [www.healthcare.gov/tribal](http://www.healthcare.gov/tribal), or call 1-800-318-2596 anytime (TTY: 1-855-889-4325).



## 50 U.S. Senators Come Out Against 'Redskins'

Fifty U.S. senators have urged the National Football League to stand on the "right side of history" and officially support changing the name of its Washington, D.C. franchise from "Redskins."

"Today, we urge you and the National Football League to send the same clear message as the NBA did: that racism and bigotry have no place in professional sports," wrote the senators in a letter to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on May 22. "The Washington, D.C. football team is on the wrong side of history. What message does it send to punish slurs against African Ameri-

cans while endorsing slurs against Native Americans?"

"The NFL is a global brand," said National Congress of American Indians Executive Director Jackie Pata, "but if it wants to contribute to the positive image of the United States across the world, rather than callously promoting discrimination against Native Americans, then it must stop promoting this slur and finally change the name."

In urging the NFL to act, Senator Maria Cantwell (D-MD) and Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), who drafted the letter, reminded the commissioner that tribes across the U.S. have passed resolutions condemning the name.

"Many of today's tribal leaders have

parents and grandparents who were punished and prosecuted for practicing their ceremonies or speaking their language," the letter reads. "Yet every Sunday during football season, the Washington, D.C. football team mocks their culture."

Most of the signers were Democrats. Just five Democratic senators declined to sign the letter, including both Virginia senators, Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, said Politico. Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Joe Donnelly of Indiana also did not sign the letter. Two independent senators, Angus King (I-ME) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) endorsed the letter.

<http://nyti.ms/1tG0CJ0> ☞

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## Montana and Wyoming Tribes Testify to Dire State of Healthcare

Representatives of seven Montana and Wyoming reservations testified on May 27 at a U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee hearing in Billings, Montana to the critical state of health care services and injustices suffered by their members.

"All too often, tribal members complain of ailments but get sent home from the Indian Health Service with cough medicine or pain killers," said A.T. "Rusty" Stafne, chairman of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of northeast Montana's Fort Peck Indian Reservation. "Later we learn the situation is much more serious, like cancer."

"It is imperative that the Indian Health Service live up to its obligation to provide quality health care to our community because our tribal members have the right to be treated with dignity and respect by Indian Health Service employees, and to have their medical issues addressed and treated," said Crow Tribe Chairman Darin Old Coyote.

"Not only do Indian people live fewer years but we have worse indicators in almost all known ways of measuring health," said Tim Rosette, Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Rocky Boy Tribal Health Board. "So is the IHS living up to its trust responsibility? Not even remotely."

At the hearing, Yvette Roubideaux, acting director of the Indian Health Service, highlighted the reforms intended to streamline bureaucratic red tape. She said that more efforts needed to be made at the local level, and that more money would be required than the \$4.4 billion the federal agency receives annually, reported the Associated Press. "We need a completely different mindset," she said. "A more tribal and patient focused approach is essential."

The Indian Health Service regional office in Billings serves approximately 80,000 tribal members from Montana and Wyoming. <http://bit.ly/1gAPFGg> 📄




### First Nations Development Institute Given \$675K for Family Empowerment Program

The First Nations Development Institute has been awarded a grant of \$675,000 from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan, to conduct a three-year project aimed at improving the economic stability of Native American parents, and thus bettering their children's chances of success. In particular, the project will target Native parents attending tribal colleges.

"Research shows that family economic security is a key to creating conditions that help children be successful in learning, school and life," said First Nations President Michael E. Roberts. "But nationally, American Indian kids, especially those living on reservations, experience high rates of poverty, nearly twice that of the general population. We hope this Native Family Empowerment Program provides a widely replicable model of how low-income parents can improve their families' economic stability and security, thus giving their children a fair shake at a more successful future."

First Nations will partner with tribal colleges and Native community development financial institutions (CDFIs) to offer services that support financial capability and asset building for the Native families. First Nations will also soon launch a competitive application process for selecting the partner tribal colleges and CDFIs, who will work together to provide a tightly integrated system of identifying and delivering the services/

The colleges will generally provide benefit screenings, relevant classes, financial aid guidance and social supports such as child care, while the CDFIs will generally provide secondary screenings, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance programs, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) for both parents and children, and related financial services. <http://bit.ly/1rkQFmy> 

### Moapa Paiute to Host Second Solar Project on Its Lands

The Moapa Solar Energy Center Project in Nevada, located on 850 acres of tribal trust land, has been approved by the U.S. Department of the Interior, along with grants totaling \$700,000 to other tribes for various sustainable-energy initiatives.

This is the second such plant to be built on Moapa Paiute lands, with a site about 20 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Construction is just starting on the first, about 30 miles due north of Las Vegas. That one has been in the works for years and has already promised electricity to Los Angeles.

The second plant was announced on May 7 by Interior Secretary Sally Jewell as part of President Barack Obama's Climate Action Plan and is part of the effort to help tribes and other communities both cope with climate change and work

to mitigate it.

The new facility is expected to generate power for 60,000 homes, as well as create as many as 500 construction-related jobs and 10 permanent ones, the DOI said in a statement. It also uses a minimum of water.

"This solar project is a tribute to the vision and determination of the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians as well as a great day for Indian Country as a whole," said Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Kevin K. Washburn. "As our nation's diversified energy portfolio continues to grow, it is vital that tribal communities seize the opportunity to harness the ample renewable energy resources on their lands as a reliable and cost-effective way to power their homes, businesses and economies."

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

### Hawaiian Language Preschools Garner International Recognition


The 'Aha Pūnana Leo's Hawaiian language preschools in Hilo, Hawaii have been granted by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC) the first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language worldwide.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo's system of 11 Pūnana Leo preschools, one infant daycare program and statewide administrative office was evaluated in January based on indigenous education guidelines under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In an initial report to the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, the evaluation team commended the 'Aha Pūnana Leo for the quality of its students, teachers, and staff and urged it to increase its attention to its role as an international leader and to continue to provide Hawaiian language education to its staff.

The self-study from the Pūnana Leo highlighted the academic advantages of early education through Hawaiian,

including early mastery of reading and the cognitive benefits of high bilingualism.

The evaluation team was especially interested in how the Pūnana Leo uses unique features of Hawaiian spelling to give its students a two-year leg up on reading compared to students in English preschools. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo will now seek acceptance of WINHEC accreditation by Hawaii. The goal is to allow substitution of international WINHEC accreditation for regional U.S. English language medium accreditation.

For 90 years the use of Hawaiian was illegal in schools. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo led the movement to remove that ban and has been the primary private entity supporting the development of education through Hawaiian from preschool to the doctoral level. Language revitalization programs worldwide recognize the 'Aha Pūnana Leo as the model for education in an endangered and indigenous language revitalization movement. <http://bit.ly/1tuSuZP> 

## Obama Will Visit Reservation

*Choice has yet to be made*

President Barack Obama will visit a North Dakota Indian reservation in June, officials familiar with the plan told *The Washington Post*. It is not clear which reservation Obama plans to visit, but his senior policy advisor for Native American Affairs, Jodi Gillette, is a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota. Her brother is the chairman there as well. Although this would be Obama's first visit to a reservation as president, as a presidential candidate in 2008 he visited the Crow Reservation in Montana, where a couple formally adopted him and gave him the Indian name Barack "Black Eagle," which means "One Who Helps People Throughout the Land." <http://bit.ly/1h5C36e>

## National Monument in New Mexico

*Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks gets nod*

President Obama signed a proclamation on May 21 to establish the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument in south-central New Mexico, which according to independent analysis could generate \$7.4 million in new economic activity annually. Made possible by the Authorities Act, the proclamation will permanently preserve approximately 496,000 acres of prehistoric, historic and scientific value. In addition to politicians, tribal governments, conservation groups, ranchers, and sportsmen's

organizations, over 200 local businesses expressed support for the permanent protection. The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument joins 10 other national monuments that Obama has designated across the country to date. <http://bit.ly/1hqVZuQ>

## Coquille Tribe Mourns Chief Tanner

*A leader in a time of change*

Longtime Coquille tribal chief Kenneth Denner walked on May 24 following a long-term illness. For more than two decades, Chief Tanner served the Coquille Tribe in positions that led them from the early years of renewed government-to-government relationship with the federal government to their current status as a cultural and economic leader in Southwestern Oregon. "Our Tribal Nation lost a great spiritual and cultural leader—a person we have all come to rely on for his calm and assured guidance in even the most difficult of times," said Coquille Tribal Chairperson Brenda Meade. <http://bit.ly/1tUqS2y>

## Feds Consider Artifacts Charges

*Monument official may be prosecuted*

Federal officials are considering whether to pursue charges against a man who removed Native American remains from the Effigy Mounds National Monument in Harper's Ferry, Iowa and stored them in his garage. Tom Munson, the former superintendent of the site, confessed to the re-

moval of the remains, which include fragments of jaw and leg bones up to 2,000 years old, in 2011. Munson could be prosecuted under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, which provides for civil and criminal penalties for damaging such artifacts. <http://bit.ly/1krd3G1>

## A Revolt Against Andrew Jackson

*Students protest \$20 bill image*

A group of elementary school students in Massachusetts is petitioning the Obama administration to remove the image of Andrew Jackson from the \$20 bill. "Although Andrew Jackson was a war hero, a champion of the common man, and a popular president, his shameful treatment of slaves and Native Americans should disqualify him from being on the \$20 bill," says the petition. "As President, he passed the Indian Removal Act and initiated the forced removal we now call the Trail of Tears. When the Supreme Court sided with the Cherokee, Jackson became the only president to openly defy a Supreme Court ruling." The children need 100,000 signatures by June 15 to elicit a formal response from President Obama. <http://bit.ly/1nyhrGy>

## Harvard Project Names Three

*Tribal leaders for Honoring Nations program*

The Harvard University Project on American Indian Economic Development's Honoring Nations pro-

gram has announced three Nation-building leaders for its 2014 Honoring Nations Leader Program, designed to foster Nation-building capacity in the Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota regions. The designees are Karen Cary, director of Career and Technical Education at Leech Lake College; Amber Annis, a Cheyenne River Sioux Ph.D. candidate in American Studies at the University of Minnesota; and Justin Beaulieu, Constitution Reform Initiative coordinator at the Red Lake Nation. The program affords the opportunity for a site visit and reporting to the Honoring Nations Board of Governors. <http://bit.ly/1ozq0jO>

## Article Refutes Snyder's Claim

*'Redskins' not an honorific*

Contrary to the assertions of Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder, the name of his NFL team was not chosen to honor Native Americans, *The Washington Lawyer* reports. "The fact that we have in our head coach, Lone Star Dietz, an Indian, together with several Indian players, has not, as may be suspected, inspired me to select the name Redskins," stated a recent article in the *Lawyer*, which quoted a 1933 Associated Press story, said George Preston Marshall, the first owner of the Redskins. The team was originally based in Boston and called the Braves, but to avoid any confusion with Boston's professional baseball team of the same name, Marshall chose the name Redskins. <http://bit.ly/1IVcmRT>

# Washburn on Recognition

Some Preliminary answers to many questions on prooosed new federal rules **BY GALE COUREY TOENSING**

**Bottom Line:** *On May 22, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn announced proposed new regulations that will reform the 35-year-old process by which the federal government acknowledges Indian tribes and enters into a nation-to-nation relationship with them. The new regulations are expected to upgrade a process that both tribes and their opponents have long characterized as broken and unfair. The publication of the proposed new rules in The Federal Register follows the release last June of a draft of the proposed changes and, after another period of consultations and comments, will lead to final regulations being published and implemented. Washburn talked about the substance and process of the proposed new rules in an exclusive interview with ICTMN.*

## **Congratulations on getting the proposed regulations out.**

We're real happy about it. It's taken us longer than we thought, but these things are always difficult and we're using a lot of process and that always takes a lot of time.

We did the discussion draft and got lots of comments back. I think we had 350 comments though several organizations signed on to some of the comments so it's 350 comments representing over 2800

commentators so we had to go carefully through those.

## **That's an amazing lot.**

Yeah, it really is. It's good that people were engaged in it. It improves the product ultimately.

## **Were most of the comments positive?**

Yes, we had a lot of very positive com-

ments. I think everybody's happy that we're taking this up and we've gotten a lot of kudos for taking it.

## **Did you basically keep the provisions that were in the draft proposal?**

No, it's been modified quite a bit in response to comments so we'll be interested to see what the comments are on that. We're going into a 60-day comment period where we expect to get more comments on the way we changed things primarily.

## **Does the proposed rule maintain the change requiring proof of community and political authority from 1934 instead of 1789?**

We have maintained that and we've also maintained that if a petitioner has maintained a state recognized reservation since 1934 or if we've held land in trust for a petitioner since 1934 that that would satisfy the political authority and community criteria.

## **What was the rationale for the earlier date of 1789?**

Well, obviously, that's the founding of the United States. Here's the problem: Petitioning groups didn't like that because during times in our nation's history we were either seeking to exterminate or terminate or assimilate Indians so often they went underground dur-



Washburn: 'We've gotten a lot of kudos.'

ing those periods and the problem is if we demand that they show evidence from those time periods they could very justifiably say, 'We don't have any evidence because we were trying not to be noticed.' The 1934 date is important because that's when the Indian Reorganization Act was passed. There was a period in the 1950s when tribes were terminated, but 1934 was the first time when [the federal government] said, "Look, we think tribes should continue and we should help them draft constitutions and that sort of thing so that they can be ongoing political entities."

If they didn't exist in 1934 that's a serious problem, but it's 1934 coming forward that's the period we're looking for political authority within their own community.

**Will tribes that had their federal recognition denied in a final determination or overturned because of political influence have a second go at it? For example, in Connecticut the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation and Schaghticoke Tribal Nation's federal recognitions were overturned based in part on the opposition claiming that their long established state recognized reservations were irrelevant.**

I don't really feel comfortable addressing specific groups. But here's the deal on re-petitioning: If we're slightly adjusting the criteria in such a way that [a group that] was ultimately denied recognition can say, 'Look, you changed the criteria and under this new criteria we are entitled to be recognized,' we're going to give them a chance to make their case—with some exceptions. The idea here is basically they're going to have to go before an administrative judge and say, 'Reconsideration is appropriate in our case because you've changed the criteria in a way that benefits our case and if we'd had this updated criteria we might not

have been denied.'

We do recognize, though, that outside parties who've been involved in litigation against these petitioning groups have developed some equities because they've spent tens of thousands or hundreds of thousands of dollars and numerous man-hours analyzing the petitions and challenging them and that sort of thing and where we have that situation we have to recognize that third party interest. So in these cases we're go-

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*If we're slightly readjusting the criteria, in such a way that a group that was ultimately denied recognition can say, 'We are entitled to be recognized,' we're going to give them a chance—with some exceptions.'*

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ing to require the consent of any third party that participated in that process. In other words, the petitioning group would have to go to the third party and get their consent before re-petitioning.

**Really?**  
Yeah.

**Ouch! Well, what if they say no?**

Well, they might say no. The bottom line is in many cases it's a political entity that's doing that and political entities change and if a new governor comes in or new legislature it can change the dynamic. So it sort of leaves the door open to some degree and presumably those [challengers] are people who prevailed in court. So it's kind of not fair for them to have challenged [a petitioner] and taken it to court and prevailed for us to come back and say, "We've changed the rules, you're back to square one"—they rightfully can say that's not fair. We

want everybody to think this process is fair—that's one of the most important things we're trying to do through our reform.

**So you now have a 60-day comment period—then what happens?**

We may have another 350 comments to go through! And then we'll integrate those comments into a final rule eventually and that will take us a while. We thought we were going to get this out sooner than we did.

We need to be very diligent and look at those comments very rigorously and thoroughly and so the challenge is when you produce a final rule you need to address all the substantive comments that you got and make sure that you fully thought through the rule but also that you've done so in a transparent way. We'll have to explain significant substantive comments and why we rejected them or accepted them in the preamble to the final rule.

**Is there a way of challenging the rule?**

Sure, yes. The Administrative Procedures Act does allow people to file an action challenging our rule but they have to meet certain requirements.


**Are the requirements fairly rigorous?**

Well, they have to have standing. They have to be someone who's potentially affected by the rule.

**Can a state challenge it?**

Potentially. I don't know for sure and you're starting to ask me legal questions and I'm glad you're thinking three or four steps ahead, but we haven't gotten to that point yet!

In a perfect world we come up with a rule that everybody sees as not only substantively good but also substantively fair so they don't want to challenge it. We'll see if that happens.

<http://bit.ly/1ki2dCf> 



# Bay Mills Beats Michigan

Tribal sovereign immunity is upheld **BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO**

**Bottom Line:** *It was a close call, but the Supreme Court has sided with the Bay Mills Indian Community in a major case about an off-reservation casino.*

Tribal sovereign immunity trumped Michigan's desire to sue the Bay Mills Indian Community over an irksome off-reservation casino that has been non-operational almost since the day it opened in 2010.

So ruled the Supreme Court on May 27 in a 5-4 decision, in a case that a plethora of national and legal tribal law experts had warned the tribe from the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan not to take to the high court.

The overarching concern was that tribal sovereign immunity—and thus, tribal sovereignty as a whole—could have been limited for all tribes had the Supreme Court ruled negatively. Another immediate concern was that a loss at the court might have prevented many tribes from negotiating positive tribal-state gaming compacts under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

But Bay Mills leaders said that their argument—that the tribe should be able to open an off-reservation casino about 125 miles from its reservation because it had used money garnered from a trust settlement to do so—was worth the risk.

Justice Elena Kagan wrote for the majority, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Anthony Kennedy and Stephen Breyer. “Michigan’s suit against Bay Mills is barred by tribal sovereign immunity,” Kagan wrote. Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Antonin Scalia, Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas dissented.

Kagan noted that the “plain terms” of IGRA, which Michigan previously entered into a compact with the tribe to establish tribal gaming, “do not authorize this suit.” She also said that for tribal sovereign immunity to be limited for the tribe, as Michigan wanted, Congress must do it, not the court, as the court has previously ruled

that it cannot do so in a case such as this.”

She further noted that the court had previously declined “to make any exception [for waiving tribal sovereign immunity] for suits arising from a tribe’s commercial activities, even when they take place off Indian lands.”

It remains to be seen whether Bay Mills will reopen the shuttered casino, and if so whether Michigan will attempt to close it on other grounds. The tribe said in a statement that its citizens are “gratified” by the ruling and that the court’s decision will

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*Tribal sovereignty as a whole could have been limited had the Supreme Court ruled negatively.*

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allow the tribe to “continue to fund tribal education and perform other sovereign functions.”

Still, there is reason for Bay Mills to proceed with restraint. Kagan cautioned that Michigan does not need to have tribal sovereign immunity struck down to be able to shut down an off-reservation casino that it deems illegal.

“True enough, a State lacks the ability to sue a tribe for illegal gaming when that activity occurs off the reservation,” Kagan wrote. “But a State, on its own lands, has many other powers over tribal gaming that it does not possess (absent consent) in Indian territory. Unless federal law provides differently, ‘Indians going beyond reservation boundaries’ are subject to any generally applicable state law.

“Michigan could bring suit against tribal officials or employees (rather than the Tribe itself) seeking an injunction for, say, gambling without a license,” Kagan wrote. “And to the extent civil remedies proved inadequate, Michigan could resort to its criminal law, prosecuting anyone who

maintains—or even frequents—an unlawful gambling establishment.”

Kagan noted, too, that states can add waivers of immunity to compacts with tribes made under IGRA, if they wish to sue a tribe for participating in off-reservation gaming.

In concluding, Kagan again noted the importance of Congress in federal-tribal dealings: “If Congress had authorized this suit, Bay Mills would have no valid grounds to object. But Congress has not done so: The abrogation of immunity in IGRA applies to gaming on, but not off, Indian lands. We will not rewrite Congress’s handiwork.”

Almost as soon as the opinion was issued, Indian country turned to the question of whether tribes should more aggressively peruse legal arguments that could strengthen their sovereignty at the Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Roberts.

“The court’s decision is an important victory for all of Indian country,” said Joseph Webster, a partner with Hobbs Straus, who filed an amicus brief supporting Bay Mills on behalf of several other tribes. “However, the fact that the decision was 5-4 is a reminder that tribal rights remain threatened. Litigation is inherently uncertain, and tribal leaders must weigh the risks of a negative decision in deciding whether and how to litigate a particular dispute, including whether to seek Supreme Court review.”

“Yes, tribes should be bold,” said Joe Valandra, former chief of staff at the National Indian Gaming Commission. “Perhaps that is the lesson from Bay Mills, when the stakes are highest, bold action may be the answer.

“Most tribes are poor and are located in very tough areas for meaningful economic development,” Valandra added, noting that he initially called for caution. “How could anyone tell those tribes to not be bold in doing what it takes to provide for essential needs and the preservation of culture?”

<http://bit.ly/RBi4A1> 

# The Legacy of Sonny Jim

A death highlights the need for change **BY ANNE MINARD**

**Bottom Line:** *The murderer of Sonny Jim has been convicted. And there are still lessons to be learned from his death.*

More than four years after Native rodeo legend Sonny Jim and his friend were murdered over disputed fence posts, their killer has been convicted. Now, a family that laments the senseless deaths is going public with a call for change.

On May 14, a state district court judge in Grants, New Mexico sentenced Danny Stanfield to two life sentences for the 2009 shooting deaths of Jim and his longtime friend, Wayne Johnson. In addition, Stanfield received 9 to 15 years for shooting at a third victim. Stanfield was assigned to a mental health facility by the judge, George P. Eichwald, who made a provision for a jury trial should Stanfield ever be deemed mentally competent to participate.

Jim, of Modoc descent, was an enrolled Klamath tribal member and married into the Navajo Tribe. Johnson and Stanfield were both white.

"It was good to put all the pieces together," said Sonlatsa Jim Martin, Jim's daughter, "but it was emotional, to learn how your father's last moments were spent."

In the bigger picture, Jim-Martin's family is determined to carry forward some lessons from the ordeal. "We feel like the whole incident could have been prevented in the first place," she said, "and my father could be standing here with me right now."

The trouble stemmed from a long-term arrangement between Johnson and Stanfield: Johnson had allowed Stanfield to park a trailer on his land in Grants, New Mexico for a modest rent. The two were friendly, until Stanfield began asserting more rights to the land than the arrangement afforded him. By the day of the murders, Stanfield had threatened violence to Johnson several times, and the two had gotten into fights.

Jim-Martin had known Johnson since she was a girl, and would visit him with her father. She and her siblings called him the "Chicken Man" before they knew his name, simply because he kept and bred chickens. By the time of the murders, Johnson was elderly, and Jim took care of him.

"Wayne had no family to call his own," she said. "My dad would tell me that nobody was taking care of Wayne, and Wayne was getting bad. He started making appointments for Wayne and taking Wayne to the hospital. He would tell me, I'm taking Wayne out to Al-

ously," Jim-Martin said. "We want to prevent this from happening to another family."

She said she has been working with a victims' rights organization to figure out how she can get involved in advocacy. "If he was alive, he would be saying we've got to change the system. There's got to be some way to make this world better. That's what he was trying to do. He was trying to use the system to get help. That was important to him."

Jim was born as Clyde Shacknasty James on the Klamath Indian Reservation in Oregon on December 28, 1940. His father, Clyde "Chief" James, was inducted in 1977 into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame for basketball. Jim was also the great grandson of Shacknasty Jim, leader of the Hot Creek Band of the Modoc Tribe. Jim-Martin explained that his father's last name had been changed on record to James, and "my father wanted to go back to Jim in recognition of his Modoc ancestry."

Jim was raised in Taos, New Mexico and traveled with his parents to various Indian reservations throughout the years. He also toured to play the Harlem Globetrotters in exhibition games, and later to perform Native American and country western music in his band, "Sonny Jim & the Renegades." He began his rodeo career on the Navajo Nation and competed on many reservations as well as in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. To his last days, Jim continued to participate in rodeos.

"He was very strong still, very athletic still at his age and still competing in the steer-wrestling competitions with the young men," Jim-Martin said. "He had told me this was going to be his last year doing steer wrestling because he had a dislocated shoulder. He was going to take up team roping. I'm not sure how many people knew that. That's a big step for a man like my father." <http://bit.ly/1mLgvuK> 🌟

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*'This could have been prevented, had someone taken this a little more seriously. We want to prevent this.'*

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buquerque to get some tests done, or whatever."

So when Stanfield drove fence posts into Johnson's land against the older man's wishes, and Johnson wanted help getting them out, he called Jim. Jim knew that Stanfield was dangerous. He was not alone. Law enforcement had been out to Johnson's land several times following Stanfield's threats. Jim had tried to secure legal help for the property disputes. On the eve and the day of the murders, he tried to get a sheriff's escort to Johnson's land.

"This could have been prevented, had someone taken this a little more seri-



Barack Obama, seen here as a candidate in 2008 at a campaign rally in Crow Agency, Montana, will visit another reservation this month.



Robin Wall Kimmerer's Braiding Sweetgrass won the 2014 nature writing award of the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute at Northland College.



A second Moapa Paiute solar energy plant has been approved; the groundbreaking on the first, shown here, took place in March.



The Coquille Tribe of southwestern Oregon mourned longtime Chief Kenneth Tanner who walked on May 24.





## Standing Rock Housing Authority

P.O. Box 769  
Fort Yates, North Dakota 58538  
Telephone 701-854-3891  
Toll-Free 800-262-3891  
Fax 701-854-3855

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**POSITION:** SRHA Executive Housing Director  
Full Time Permanent

**LOCATION:** STANDING ROCK HOUSING AUTHORITY  
Fort Yates, North Dakota

**OPENING DATE:** May 2, 2014

**CLOSING DATE:** June 6, 2014 (Close of Business)

**SALARY LEVEL:** Negotiable-DOQ (Full Benefit Package)

**SUPERVISION:** Reports Directly to SRHA Board of  
Commissioners

#### Job Summary:

Under the supervision of the Standing Rock Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, Executive Director is responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of the Standing Rock Housing Authority. The Authority manages over 900 rental, tax credit, and mutual homeownership properties, and also administers construction and rehabilitation programs for managed units and qualified private homes within the boundaries of the Standing Rock Housing Authority, Fort Yates, in North Dakota. The authority currently manages approximately 35 permanent full-time employees.

The Executive Director exercises control of the administrative and operational functions of the Authority. This high-level position involves a broad range of activities, including complex grant and budget management, grant application and resource development, personnel supervision and development, and over sight of construction, rehabilitation and maintenance. The Executive Director ensures that the Authority's activities conform to federal, tribal, and Board requirements.

The Executive Director is also designated as the Authority's Contracting Officer and executes all legal, financial and budgetary documents on its behalf. The ideal candidate will be a high caliber individual with experience in Indian housing regulation and operations, housing construction, budget development, fiscal management, planning and supervision of 35 or more employees for a minimum of four years in a responsible management position with a public agency or private organization. Familiarity with social and economic issues related to Indian housing as well as knowledge of community and public organizations is highly desirable.

#### Indian Preference:

The Standing Rock Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer. However, in the event of equally qualified candidates, the law governing Indian preference shall be applied and Indian preference will be given accordance with P.L. 93-638.

Please submit SRHA application and resume to:  
The Standing Rock Housing Authority (Elisabeth Hertel) at:  
P.O. Box 769 Fort Yates, North Dakota 58538 [ehertel@westriv.com](mailto:ehertel@westriv.com).



# Headlines from the Web

## DEAL WORTH MILLIONS REACHED IN MOHAWK LAND CLAIMS

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

## RIVER ROCK CASINO TO DEFAULT ON BONDS

<http://bit.ly/SgMmsk>

## WINNEBAGO TRIBAL HOSPITAL TO LOSE MEDICARE FUNDING

<http://bit.ly/TXUzU0>

## TRIBE TO DISTRIBUTE MORE THAN \$620,000 IN 2 PERCENT FUNDS

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

## REDSKINS CONTINUE TO DEFEND TEAM NAME IN LETTER

<http://wapo.st/1jMj4Or>

## LAW AND DISORDER ON THE PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION

<http://on.msnbc.com/1IU32O0>

## Upcoming Events

### SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA NATIVE LEARNING CENTER SUMMER CONFERENCE JUNE 3-5

The sixth annual conference of the Center, devoted to promoting strong and safe tribal communities, will educate participants on topics related to culture revitalization, sustainable housing, grants education, tribal government and financial wellness. Topics include “Tribal Government: What You Want to Know But Are Afraid to Ask”, “Mold Remediation in Indian Country”, and “Revitalizing Work and Tribal Culture Through Team Awareness and Reliance”. **Location:** Seminole Hard Rock and Casino, Hollywood, Florida

### JIM THORPE GAMES JUNE 8-14

Over 1,500 Native American athletes representing more than 70 Indian Nations, bands and tribes are expected to gather their talents in the spirit of Native American athletic legend Jim Thorpe. Eleven different sports—basketball, softball, tennis, wrestling, track and field, cross-country,

golf, martial arts, beach volleyball, stickball and lacrosse—will be featured. There will also be a Jim Thorpe Native American All-Star Football Game will also take place. The games are sponsored by Nike N7, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

**Location:** Oklahoma Baptist University; St. Gregory's University; the Ballfields at Firelake; Firelake Golf Course; and Shawnee High School

### FATHERS: KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER JUNE 12-13

This regional seminar, sponsored by the Native American Fatherhood & Families Association, is designed to encourage and promote responsible fatherhood and the strengthening of families. Among the seminar topics are “Fatherhood Involvement”, “Strengthening Relationships”, “Addressing Family Violence” and “Grandparents Raising Grandchildren”.

**Location:** Ala Moana Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii

### TURTLE MOUNTAIN TRIBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT

### CONFERENCE JUNE 11-13

Sponsored by the Native American Development Corporation-Procurement Technical Assistance Center, this year's conference will be devoted to economic development planning and discussion, government procurement training, and government contracting matchmaking opportunities.

**Location:** Sky Dancer Casino & Resort Event Center, Belcourt, North Dakota

### TRIBAL CONSULTATION SESSION JUNE 16

This tribal consultation session is being held by the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to consult on ACF programs and tribal priorities. Federal representatives from the Office of Family Assistance, the Office of Child Support Enforcement, the Office of Community Services, the Office of Child Care, the Office of Head Start, and the Administration on Children, Youth will be present.

**Location:** Doubletree Hotel Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re your article about current tribal disenrollment (“Dismembering Natives: The Violence Done By Citizenship Fights”, May 16):

I don't think it unreasonable for the United Nations to work as a nonbinding mediator in resolving issues of disputed citizenship in nation members. However, for this proposal to make any sense at all, and to be fair, it absolutely must have two critical prerequisites to any discussion.

First, this mediation policy must apply equally to all nation members of the U.N. This is only fair. It would not be reasonable to pick and choose which nations it applies to. It would in particular be outrageous to suggest it apply to smaller nations and not to large and powerful ones.

Second, the indigenous nations to which it applies would have to be accepted as full sovereign members of

the U.N. membership, with full voting rights on the U.N. Council, and the passports of their citizens considered totally valid and accepted by other member nations. To advocate U.N. rights of intervention regarding issues of our citizenship without these basic and common sense prerequisites would simply be another form of colonialism and domination.

— Jan Davis

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)

**HALANDIA COURT  
SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING  
266 NORTH CENTRE AVENUE  
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11570**

Halandia Court Senior Citizen Housing, a 164 unit building including 8 mobility accessible units will be accepting applications for studio, one and two bedroom apartments. The housing is intended to serve persons age 62 or older and disabled. Persons who are disabled or handicapped and under the age of 62 ONLY qualify for the accessible units.

Eligibility will be based on Section 8 HUD regulations. To obtain an application please send a self addressed stamped envelope to:

**HALANDIA COURT  
SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING  
266 NORTH CENTRE AVENUE, SUITE 1  
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11570**

Completed applications must be returned to the address listed on the application no later than  
**JUNE 13, 2014**

Send via  
**REGULAR MAIL ONLY.**  
No applications will be accepted after the deadline date.



**HEYSON GARDENS**

Applications are now being accepted on a rolling basis for 1, and 2 bedroom apartments at 14-03 - 14-21 Heyson Road, Far Rockaway, N.Y.  
Qualifications will be based on Section 8 Federal Guidelines and the Low-Income Rental Marketplace Program (LAMP) of the NYC Housing Development Corporation - Income and occupancy restrictions apply.

*The age eligibility requirement is 62 years of age at the time of application for one person.*

| Apartment Size | Household Size* | Maximum Income Range** |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1 Bedroom      | 1               | \$36,120               |
|                | 2               | \$41,280               |
| 2 Bedroom      | 1               | \$41,280               |
|                | 2               | \$46,440               |
|                | 3               | \$51,540               |

\* Subject to occupancy criteria

\*\* Income guidelines subject to change

Interested persons may obtain an application by phoning or sending a self addressed envelope to:

Progressive Management of NY Corp.

P.O. BOX 940

FLORAL PARK, NY 11002

**Attn: Heyson Gardens - WL**

Phone: 516-277-9324

TTY: 711/800-662-1220

Voice: 711/800-421-1220

**Completed applications must be sent to the address shown on the application form via regular mail only, (no priority, certified, registered, express or overnight mail will be accepted).**

**Completed applications must be postmarked by July 31st, 2014.**

Applications postmarked after July 31st, 2014 will be placed on a waiting list for possible future consideration.

Applicants who submit more than one application will be disqualified. Qualified applicants will be required to meet income guidelines and additional selection criteria.

The Fair Housing Act Prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, or financing of housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin. Federal law also prohibits discrimination on the basis of age. This apartment community does not discriminate on the basis of handicap/disability status. The management coordinates compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in HUD's Regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR part 8 dated June 2, 1988)



**No Broker's Fee. No Application Fee**

BILL de BLASIO, Mayor  
MARC JAHR, PRESIDENT - NYCHDC  
[www.nyc.gov/housing](http://www.nyc.gov/housing)



## GENERAL MANAGER

Odawa Casino is accepting resumes for the **General Manager** Opportunity.

This position oversees key gaming and executive level personnel with day to day oversight of all Odawa Casino Resort operations.

*For a complete job description please visit*

**[casinocareers.com](http://casinocareers.com)**

*or forward your resume to*

**[keberly@odawacasino.com](mailto:keberly@odawacasino.com)**

**Petoskey, MI**  
(877) 4-GAMING • [odawacasino.com](http://odawacasino.com)



Owned and operated by the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians.

**ODAWA  
Casino**

IT IS BETTER TO  
DESERVE HONORS  
AND NOT HAVE THEM  
THAN TO HAVE THEM  
AND NOT  
DESERVE THEM.



## TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

### TUTU VISITS OIL SANDS

Nobel Peace Laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu has joined the list of prominent global citizens visiting the Alberta oil sands to oppose further development there, most notably the Keystone XL pipeline. In a speech on May 30 he urged Canada to give up on industrial projects that unleash more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. "Only those who don't want to listen, only those who want to be blind can't see that we are sitting on a powder keg," he said, according to the Canadian Press. "If we don't do something urgently, quickly, we won't have a world."

### LACROSSE HONOR FOR ONONDAGA BROTHERS

Miles and Lyle Thompson, two

brothers from the Onondaga Nation have received the Tewaarton Award, the highest honor in college lacrosse. They are not only the first Native Americans to receive the honor, they are the first players to share it. Playing for the State University of New York in Albany, Miles, a senior, scored 82 goals this season, while Lyle, a junior, had 51 goals and 77 assists. The presentation took place at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

### NAVAJO SMOKING BAN

Members of the Crownpoint Chapter of the Navajo Nation on May 20 approved a measure that would ban the use of cigarettes, electronic cigarettes and chewing tobacco—includ-

ing for spiritual and ceremonial purposes—in public places and places of employment on its ground. It is believed that it is the first chapter to pass such legislation. The measure will now proceed to the Eastern Navajo Agency Council. Navajo National Ben Shelly had previously vetoed a similar resolution in 2011.

### MOHAWK DEAL NEAR AT HAND

In a case that stagnated for years, the Mohawk Tribe signed on May 27 a Memorandum of Understanding that ushers in a major land claim settlement in New York State. Effectively, the memorandum identifies approximately 4,800 acres that would become part of the tribe's reservation after hav-

ing been acquired from sellers. Final approval must come from Congress. "Our tribe and our people have worked toward this agreement for 32 years," said Chief Beverly Cook.

### WILDFIRE ON TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

A wildfire burned approximately 200 acres of the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation south of Tucson, Arizona on May 21. According to authorities, the conflagration was sparked by a vehicle fire that spread into the brush. The tribe announced that no structures were threatened and that there were no evacuations. In an unrelated incident, a 450-acre fire occurred at about the same time at the Babacomari Ranch in Sonoita.

### EWU Summer Institute Examines the Challenges of Tribal Planning

Join Eastern Washington University's Tribal Planning Program in Spokane, Wash., for an exceptional learning opportunity. "Introduction to American Indian Planning" (June 23-26, 2014) offers an overview of the processes and evolution of tribal planning and its practice today. Issues range from economic development and water law to environmental protection. "Introduction to Tribal Transportation" (July 7-10, 2014) will provide an overview of tribal transportation planning and background information on surface transportation statutes, programs and funding under MAP-21. These two intensive classes (each class has 4 sessions), 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., include a one-day tour and field research project scheduled on a nearby reservation. To learn more about the summer program and to register today visit our website at [www.ewu.edu/nwttap/training/summer-institute](http://www.ewu.edu/nwttap/training/summer-institute).



## DateCatcher

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# UPCOMING POW WOWS

## **Al-Anon Desert Pow Wow**

6/5/14 – 6/8/14  
Renaissance Esmeralda Resort  
Indian Wells, CA  
[DesertPowWow.com](http://DesertPowWow.com)

## **28th Annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival**

6/5/14 – 6/7/14  
Remington Park  
Oklahoma City, OK  
405-427-5228  
[info@redearth.org](mailto:info@redearth.org)  
[RedEarth.org](http://RedEarth.org)

## **Soap Lake Pow Wow**

6/6/14 – 6/8/14  
East Beach Park  
Soap Lake, WA  
509-855-5085  
[SoapLakePowWow.com](http://SoapLakePowWow.com)

## **Tulalip Veterans Pow Wow**

6/6/14 – 6/8/14  
Tulalip Resort  
10200 Quil Ceda Boulevard  
Tulalip, WA  
360-716-4220  
[fwilliams@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov](mailto:fwilliams@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov)  
[TulalipTribes-NSN.gov](http://TulalipTribes-NSN.gov)

## **Saa Gii Ba Gaa Pow Wow**

6/6/14 – 6/8/14  
Pow Wow Grounds  
5344 Lakeshore Drive  
Nett Lake, MN  
218-757-3261  
[dchosajr@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:dchosajr@boisforte-nsn.gov)  
[BoisForte.com](http://BoisForte.com)

## **Miami Nation Tribal Pow Wow**

6/6/14 – 6/7/14  
Ottawa Fairgrounds  
Miami, OK  
918-542-1445  
[MiamiNation.com](http://MiamiNation.com)

## **Gateway to Nations New York Native American Heritage Celebration**

6/6/14 – 6/8/14  
Aviator Sports Complex Floyd Bennett Field  
3159 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY  
718-686-9297  
[native@redhawkcouncil.org](mailto:native@redhawkcouncil.org)  
[RedhawkCouncil.org](http://RedhawkCouncil.org)

## **9th Annual Taylorville Blackhorse Pow Wow**

6/6/14 – 6/8/14  
Christian County Fairgrounds  
Taylorville, IL  
314-302-4095  
[quiet-eyes@att.net](mailto:quiet-eyes@att.net)  
[FreeWebs.com/blackhorsepowwow/](http://FreeWebs.com/blackhorsepowwow/)

## **32nd Annual Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians Pow Wow**

6/6/14 – 6/7/14  
American Indian Cultural Center  
16816 Country Lane  
Waldorf, MD  
240-640-7213  
[piscatawayindians@yahoo.com](mailto:piscatawayindians@yahoo.com)  
[PiscatawayIndians.org](http://PiscatawayIndians.org)

## **Rogue Valley Veterans Pow Wow**

6/7/14 – 6/8/14  
8495 Crater Lake Highway  
White City, OR  
541-601-3627  
[hazenf@gmail.com](mailto:hazenf@gmail.com)  
[Facebook.com/roguevalleyveteranspowwow](https://www.facebook.com/roguevalleyveteranspowwow)

## **Occaneechi-Saponi Spring Pow Wow**

6/7/14  
4902 Daily Store Road  
Burlington, NC  
336-421-1317  
[obsntribe@gmail.com](mailto:obsntribe@gmail.com)  
[OBSN.org](http://OBSN.org)

## **22nd Annual Northside Aztlan Community Center Spring Pow Wow**


6/7/14 – 6/8/14  
Northside Aztlan Community Center  
112 Willow Street  
Fort Collins, CO  
970-498-0290  
[ncipa@fortnet.org](mailto:ncipa@fortnet.org)  
[FortNet.org/PowWow/NCIPA\\_powwow.html](http://FortNet.org/PowWow/NCIPA_powwow.html)

## **11th Annual National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture Gathering of Great Lakes Nations**

6/7/14 – 6/8/14  
Tri-State Antique Gas Engine Association  
Grounds  
1010 Morton Street  
Portland, IN  
765-426-3022  
[kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com](mailto:kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com)  
[NCGLNAC.org](http://NCGLNAC.org)

## **Jim Thorpe Native American Games**

6/7/14 – 6/14/14  
Oklahoma City, OK  
405-208-9253 or 855-JTGAMES  
[info@jimthorpegames.com](mailto:info@jimthorpegames.com)  
[JimThorpeGames.com](http://JimThorpeGames.com)

A close-up photograph of Sherman Alexie, a man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a checkered shirt. He is speaking into a silver microphone and holding a book titled "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian" by Sherman Alexie. The book cover features a portrait of a young man. The background is dark and out of focus.

*Sherman Alexie,  
author of The  
Absolutely True  
Diary of a Part Time  
Indian, recently  
kept a crowd in  
stitches in Spokeane,  
Washington, for 45  
minutes.*

JACK MCNEEL

**THE BIG PICTURE**