



Indian Country

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

A Letter from the Publisher

Shekóli. When the federal government issues disturbing research, such as the recent report “School Discipline, Restraint and Seclusion” by the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights, it can be seen either as more bad news, or—hope against hope—the potential for positive change. As contributor Tonya Lee reports in this week’s article “Not Separate, Not Equal: Feds Look at Native Kids in Public Schools”, the Office of Civil Rights sees troubling trends across the board in all 97,000 public schools in disciplinary treatment of minority students in public schools. Minority kids are more likely to receive more frequent and more severe levels of discipline than their white counterparts. While Native children account for about one-half of one percent of the population studied, they represent 2 percent of all kids suspended once or multiple times, and 3 percent of all kids expelled. In fact, the harsher the punishment, the higher the rates for minority kids, American Indian and Alaska Natives included.

While we all understand the importance of education, we can also relate to the overt and covert discrimination lurking under these statistics. Instead of schools being a place where kids can learn to grow and learn to learn, we are too familiar with them as environments where so many factors—from the curriculum, bias of teachers and poor access to necessary materials—work against our kids (and the children of other minorities). The Office of Civil Rights is in a position to investigate this problem if the data warrants. But, as always, it stands to reason that leaders and parents will have to insist on drawing attention to unnecessary punishments.



Also on the education front, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs found issues with the disbursement of Impact Aid during a recent oversight meeting. Impact Aid, which started in the 1950s, is designed to help fund public schools located on non-taxed land and territories. Unfortunately, it has been underfunded since 1968—and last year’s government sequester dealt another heavy blow to schools in our communities that rely on such aid.

Despite all this, there are initiatives sprouting in Indian Country that display the best results from self-reliance and the desire to provide Native kids with educations without falling prey to policies created thousands of miles away. Thanks to community involvement and the questioning of long-standing policies, the superintendent of the Tohono O’odham Nation’s Baboquivari school district testified that raising expectations have helped transform a mediocre system into an enviable one. “We insist that the entire BUSD community support our efforts in educating our children,” said Superintendent Alberto Siqueiros. The result? A 40 percent increase in graduation rates, and six Gates Millennium Scholars in the last three years.

Now there is a lesson worth learning.

NA Ki wa,

Ray Halbritter

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Annihilation Through Nomenclature


Syracuse University student Naomi Brisley (Seneca) argues that the “Redskin” name of the Washington, D.C. National Football League franchise constitutes a bona fide form of cultural genocide:

What the term “Redskins” does is reinforce the mass ideology of symbolic annihilation. Symbolic annihilation is the absence of representation, or underrepresentation, of some group of people in the media (often based on their race, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, etc.). Confining all Natives to this one representation cultivates the misconceptions that our society has indoctrinated

in us from an early age. It is an attempt to glamorize genocide.

If we think back to grade school, we can all remember the symbolic annihilation that took place against Native Americans in the first four to six pages of our history textbooks. In these introductory chapters, the historians covered hundreds of thousands of years of the histories of hundreds of tribes, their interactions with one another, their complex legal, moral, religious, and philosophical approaches, their helpfulness and brotherhood that was extended to the Europeans when contact was first made, the way they helped shape the Constitution, the way they helped the Americans fight the

British and “win” America from England.

The term “Redskin” and the caricatures of Native peoples dehumanize us to nostalgic figures of times past. They turn us into mascots as if we are a concept that can be conceived or a snapshot in time that can be saved. But after over 500 years of massacres, exile, prison camps (reservations), broken treaties, boarding schools, smallpox blankets, poisoned rations, religious persecution, alcohol, prison, hazardous waste, and medical experiments, Native Americans are still here. If the nation truly respected these incredibly strong individuals, they would not allow this systematic historical genocide to take place. <http://bit.ly/1pRvMuL> 

The President and the Rez

On June 13, Barack Obama will pay his first visit to Indian Country as President, when he will meet with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in Cannonball, North Dakota. Here, he reviews his solidarity with his Native constituents and looks to the future:

Together, we’ve resolved longstanding disputes. We settled a discrimination suit by Native American farmers and ranchers, and we’ve taken steps to make sure that all federal farm loan programs are fair to Native Americans from now on. And I signed into law the Claims Resolution Act, which included the historic Cobell settlement, making right years of


neglect by the Department of the Interior and leading to the establishment of the Land Buy-Back Program.

Together, we’ve increased Native Americans’ access to quality, affordable health care. One of the reasons I fought so hard to pass the Affordable Care Act is that it permanently reauthorized the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which provides care to many in tribal communities.

Together, we’ve worked to expand opportunity. My administration has built roads and high-speed Internet to connect tribal communities to the broader economy. We’ve made major investments in job training and tribal colleges and univer-

sities. We’ve tripled oil and gas revenues on tribal lands, creating jobs and helping the United States become more energy independent.

We can be proud of the progress we’ve made together. But we need to do more, especially on jobs and education. Native Americans face poverty rates far higher than the national average—nearly 60 percent in some places. And the dropout rate of Native American students is nearly twice the national rate. These numbers are a moral call to action. As long as I have the honor of serving as President, I’ll do everything I can to answer that call.

That’s what my trip is all about. <http://bit.ly/1ofjwoK> 

Good Data Leads To Good Sovereignty.


Lack of reliable data about Indian and Alaska Native populations hinders their development activities. But as Jennifer Lee Schultz—a senior researcher with the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management—and Stephanie Carroll—senior researcher with the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy at the University of Arizona—explain, it also affords an opportunity for sovereign action.

Tribes are more than capable of developing the technical expertise necessary to improve their data management capacities. But collecting and analyzing data about tribal citizens makes many tribal

leaders nervous. And with good reason! Such information brings with it serious responsibility. Data about Native peoples is sensitive and tribal governments must be sure that they can protect citizen information. But if tribes don’t actively tell their citizens’ numeric stories, someone else—usually the federal government—will.

Strategic data collection can be accomplished at a reasonable cost and without major changes in staff duties. One way to begin is with a small project that has widespread support. Another is to use an existing process (a revenue distribution mailing, voter registration, etc.) to collect additional data. Another is to commit to a data project that will directly inform a current community concern (for exam-

ple, consolidation of children-in-need-of-care data and juvenile justice data). Another is to work with other agencies and organizations to pool resources for data collection, storage, analysis, and use while maintaining authority and control over the data.

Tribes, advocacy groups, federal staff, researchers, and others must continue to work together to improve the state of national data. Meanwhile, at the local level, tribes are increasingly investing in the development of their own data collection and analysis capacities. As tribes work to regain sovereignty over their statistics, there is no telling the scope of the long-term effects that will be realized. <http://bit.ly/1na5Yth> 

Tribal Leader Rejects Cold-Call Invite By Redskins Owner

BY SIMON MOYA-SMITH

In what may have been an attempt to garner support from Native American leaders for the use of the team name for the Washington, D.C. National Football League franchise, an intermediary for the Washington Redskins contacted the leader of a small Nevada tribe on May 29 and invited him to Washington, D.C., for a news media event with team owner Daniel Snyder.

Chairman Joseph Holley of the Battle Mountain Band of Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians declined the invitation, said *USA Today Sports*. The person who contacted Holley allegedly called on behalf of the team from a Corona, California-based company, representatives of the National Congress of Americans said.

“Someone working for the team called me out of the blue to invite me to a meeting in D.C. with the team and its owners and wanted to know what I thought of the team name,” Holley said in a statement released by the NCAI. “They did not tell me what the meeting was about, what I would be doing or who else was invited and wanted my answer in just a few hours. My answer was no. I’ve got responsibilities to my community and members here at home and can’t be running off to D.C. at a moment’s notice to meet with a football team to do who knows what.”

The Redskins’ invitation to Holley came the same day the team called on its fans and supporters to tweet to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, using the hashtag #RedskinsPride with expressions of their admiration for the team and its name. Instead, Sen. Reid and 49 of his colleagues wrote to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell to encourage him to pressure Snyder to change the name.

<http://bit.ly/StuM4v> 📱

Quapaw Take Lead in Tar Creek Superfund Site Cleanup in Oklahoma and Kansas

Fresh off their success in cleaning up the Catholic Forty, part of the Tar Creek Superfund site, the Quapaw have signed an agreement to clean up two other sections of the massive contamination field left by various mining companies during decades of extraction.

The Catholic Forty project marked the first-ever Superfund cleanup project conducted by an American Indian tribe, the Quapaw Tribe said on June 4.

“We completed the first clean-up less expensively and better than previous efforts,” said Quapaw Chairman John Berrey. “Our goal is to make this land useful and productive again. We live here and we care about the outcomes, so we are very pleased to have these two new agreements in place.”

The new agreement will involve cleaning up an area that has been dubbed Chat Base 11 North, which is adjacent to the Catholic Forty, the Quapaw said. The project entails remov-

ing about 72,000 tons of contaminated material, the press release stated. It will be hauled to the Ottawa County repository.

The site is one of two new Tar Creek cleanup projects that is included in the agreement with the Quapaw, the tribe said. One will be administered through the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, and another administered through Region 7 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Kansas City. For the second project, the tribe will partner with EPA Region 7 in cleaning up the Cherokee County Superfund site, for one.

Moreover, the precedent-setting agreement will be replicated in many projects in southeastern Kansas, the Quapaw said. In all, the Tar Creek Superfund site takes up 40 square miles sprawling over parts of Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. <http://bit.ly/1kMyZqi> 📱

Members of Congress Want More Native Control of Cobell Buyback Program

BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO

Ten Republican members of Congress have told Interior Secretary Sally Jewell that they want to strengthen the land buyback portion of the Cobell settlement in ways that would give tribes more control.

“A major criticism of the roll-out of the program is the Department’s insistence that it is without authority to permit the tribes to carry out what are in reality the most important functions relative to the program,” the members wrote in a May 22 letter. “These functions include making final offers to willing sellers, rendering payment for

interests sold, and others.”

The land buyback program was created as part of the \$3.4 billion Cobell settlement between the Obama administration and the lead plaintiffs in the trust case. The program, meant to reduce fractionation of lands in Indian country caused by historical federal bureaucracies, constitutes \$1.9 billion of the overall settlement.

Interior officials say they should control the program and that the federal law that authorized the program requires it. But those who wrote Jewell disagree. “Given the 10-year authority

for the program is running, we urge the Department to immediately take whatever steps are necessary to permit Indian tribes—at their request—to assume as many of the functions of the land acquisition program that they have the ability to administer,” they wrote.

The signers are Don Young (Alaska), Steve Daines (Montana), Mike Simpson (Idaho), Scott Tipton (Colorado), Paul Gosar (Arizona), Paul Cook and Doug LaMalfa (both of California), and Tom Cole, Markwayne Mullin, and James Lankford (all of Oklahoma). <http://bit.ly/1pStrQd> 📱

Mohegan Sun Looks Forward to Cutting Ties With Original Partner

The Mohegan Tribe will kick off 2015 independent of its original partners, Trading Cove Associates, who developed, built, marketed and first operated the Mohegan Sun.

The parties will relinquish their contract on New Year's Day 2015 after buying out Trading Cove's exclusive rights, which were agreed upon before the Uncasville, Connecticut-based casino was even built. The tribe will continue to pay Trading Cove 5 percent of the casino's gross revenues until 2030.

By January, the Mohegans will have paid Trading Cove more than \$900 million not to manage the casino, reported *TheDay.com*. In 1999, the tribe opted to pay the company a percentage of revenues rather than let Trading Cove's original seven-year management contract run out in 2003.

"I'd call them a cost of self-determination," said Roland Harris, council chairman when the relinquishment agreement was forged and signed in 1999, of the relinquishment payments over the past 15 years.

"Our relationship with the Mohegan Tribe began with a handshake with Chief Ralph Sturges in 1992," said Len Wolman, a Trading Cove managing partner. "It has been our privilege to partner with the tribe for many years, to assist them in their quest for federal recognition, in developing and operating Mohegan Sun, in developing the second phase of the project and, ultimately, assisting the tribe to achieve their goal of independence."

Trading Cove has partnered with the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans to propose a commercial casino in Thompson, Sullivan County. The pair will compete with the Mohegans and developer Louis Cappelli for a casino license in Sullivan County. Mohegan Sun hopes to develop a casino on the site of the former Concord Hotel.

<http://bit.ly/1tCgXMZ> ☞

House Passes Kirkpatrick's Veteran Jobs Bill

A bill sponsored by Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-Arizona) to help veterans transfer their military skills toward civilian licenses and find jobs with employers who want to hire veterans overwhelmingly passed the House on May 29.

Veterans who return home following their military duty often face a myriad of obstacles, with employment being a major concern because of the lack of a civilian license or certification—even though the veterans may have the same skills and training as civilians. With the job market a tough battlefield in itself, these current issues create barriers for those men and women looking to make the transition back to civilian life.

H.R. 2942, will remove those bar-

riers by reviving an expert advisory panel (halted in 2006) to speed the VA's recognition of new licensing and certification programs, allowing veterans to use GI Bill benefits to pay for those training programs and licensing exams. The panel's subject-matter experts would also help veterans comply with licensing requirements that may differ from state to state.

"When veterans are able to put their skills to work, they can support their families, our local businesses thrive, and our communities benefit," Kirkpatrick said. "We need to ensure their valuable experience in the military is not lost when they return home. These men and women have so much to offer in a workplace—not only teamwork, perseverance, loyalty and leadership, but also highly sought technical skills."

<http://bit.ly/1kBKOzF> ☞

Amid Criticism, EPA Tightens Pollution Rules For Coal Plants

Industry and coal states cried foul on June 2 as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued new regulations that aim to reduce carbon pollution from existing power plants by 30 percent from 2005 levels by 2030.

There are more than 600 coal-fired power plants in the United States, and the EPA estimated that the rule could generate \$55 billion to \$93 billion in economic benefits over its lifetime, in contrast to the \$7.3 billion to \$8.8 billion that implementing it would cost, according to *The New York Times*.

The Clean Power Plan proposal, which was issued under the auspices of the Clean Air Act of 1970, allows for flexibility in permitting states and businesses in how they chose to comply. With power plants accounting for about a third of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, this allowance is a key component of President Barack Obama's Climate

Change Action Plan, an attempt to scale back on environmentally harmful practices.

"This plan is all about flexibility," said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. "Each state's goal is tailored to its own circumstances, and states have the flexibility to reach their goal in whatever way works best for them."

But the coal industry disagreed. "Clearly, [the plan] is designed to materially damage the ability of conventional energy sources to provide reliable and affordable power, which in turn can inflict serious damage on everything from household budgets to industrial jobs," attorney Scott Segal of Bracewell & Giuliani, a law firm that represents coal companies and plans to sue over the rule, told *The New York Times*.

McCarthy countered, "Efficiency is a win for our planet and our pocketbooks. And given the astronomical price we pay for climate inaction, the most costly thing we can do; is to do nothing." <http://bit.ly/1l2zYam> ☞

Last Original Navajo Code Talker Is Gone

Chester Nez dies in Albuquerque

Chester Nez, the last of the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers who helped win World War II, has walked on at the age of 93. Nez's devotion to sharing the story of how he and his compatriots developed a code in their Native language that stymied the efforts of Japanese forces in the Pacific was unmatched. Into his nineties, he could be seen wearing his Code Talker uniform at public appearances while sharing his history with youth at schools and colleges nationwide. Nez's 2011 autobiography *Code Talker* was the only memoir published by any of the original 29 recruits. <http://bit.ly/1tJdufu> ☞

Oneida Nation Gets Trust Land

More than 13,000 acres involved

The Interior Department will take into trust 13,000+ acres of the Oneida Indian Nation's vast historical territory. The decision, almost a decade in the making, affects land that includes the Nation's Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, New York, and 32 acres near Oneida, where most of the Nation's government and cultural offices are located. The Interior Department first announced it would take the acreage into trust in 2008 after three years of investigation. But Oneida and Madison coun-

ties, as well as New York State, filed a series of lawsuits seeking to overturn the decision. <http://bit.ly/1oZw7OG> ☞

Native Remains Come To Light

Discovery was made two years ago

Native American remains and artifacts were unearthed two years ago during construction of the Bay Area Rapid Transit system in San Jose, California, but the news is only now being disclosed. The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority announced on May 30 that archaeologists had discovered the remains of 17 Native Americans, most of them likely members of the Ohlone Nation, during a 2012 excavation, reported NBC Bay Area. The Valley Transportation Authority worked with the Native Heritage Commission in Sacramento to remove the remains; construction is currently continuing and is expected to be completed by 2016. <http://bit.ly/1kEzKXr> ☞

Rapper Offends With Headdress

Explosive Pharrell Williams photo

The rapper Pharrell Williams has raised hackles with his appearance on the cover of the current issue of *Elle UK*, which depicts him wearing a feather headdress. In promoting the issue, *Elle UK* touted the accompanying feature as Williams' "best ever shoot." But Natives disagreed on

the magazine's Facebook page and the rapper's personal site. "You are not a Chief Pharrel," wrote one critic. "The eagle feathers are not sacred." Another wrote, "You have no right to wear a headdress that is so sacred to Native people. . . . Those headdresses are earned and not worn to make a buck or draw attention." <http://bit.ly/1uhPW3F> ☞

Puyallup Tribal Leader Walks On

Herman Dillon Sr. dies at age 82

First elected to the Puyallup tribal council in 1971, Herman Dillon Sr. walked on May 23, 2014 at the age of 82. During Dillon's leadership of the council, the tribe went from poverty to prosperity, in large part due to casino gaming. He helped negotiate compacts with Washington State, and membership in the tribe more than tripled during his leadership. Dillon not only served on the Puyallup City Council for more than 35 years, he also testified on Indian affairs in Washington, D.C., and supported treaty fishing and hunting rights. Gov. Jay Inslee called him a "tireless advocate for the social and economic betterment" of his people. <http://bit.ly/1rLqtSr> ☞

Top Marks For Wind River

TripAdvisor lauds Wyoming casino

The Wind River Hotel and Casino, Wyoming's largest casino, has received a

2014 Certificate of Excellence Award from TripAdvisor, the world's largest travel site. The honor is accorded to only 10 percent of the businesses featured on the TripAdvisor site; it is given to businesses that maintain an overall rating of four stars or higher from travelers who post reviews on the site. The Wind River Hotel's Red Willow Restaurant is Diamond-Rated by AAA, and the entire establishment is the largest employer in Fremont County, with approximately 750 employees. <http://bit.ly/1kCCnJ1> ☞

Monsanto Set To Sue on GMO Labeling

Conflict with Vermont legislation

Monsanto, the world's largest producer of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), is likely to sue Vermont following its decision on May 8 to become the first state in the country to require GMO food to be labeled. "We believe we have a right to know what's in the food we buy," said Gov. Peter Shumlin after signing the bill into law. But Attorney General Bill Sorrell told Vermont Public Radio that he would be "very surprised" if Monsanto did not file a lawsuit against the state. According to a recent report on labeling requirements from the nonprofit Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, at least 25 states are considering similar legislation. <http://bit.ly/1hBU2BI> ☞



On March 23, 2010, President Obama signed his signature health-care bill—which has been slow to make headway in Indian country.

The Billion-Dollar Hard Sell

Obamacare has had a slow start in Indian Country **BY MARK TRAHANT**

Bottom Line: *Obamacare has been both a national promise and a national debacle. Nowhere has that been truer than in Indian country. But there are signs of hope.*

The Affordable Care Act—known to some as Obamacare and to others as ACA—remains a hard sell in Indian country.

The first comprehensive report from government data states that key measures, such as the purchase of insurance, indicate that only about three percent of eligible American Indians and Alaska Natives are participating in the plan from a marketplace exchange.

As a result, more than a billion dollars in tax credits—as well as additional tens of millions of increased funding for the Indian health system—is being left behind and unclaimed. And nearly a million American Indians and Alaska Natives remain uninsured during the first year of this new law.

Still, the Affordable Care Act could radically shift the funding mechanisms for the Indian health system.

The law is meant to give American Indian and Alaska Natives additional insurance options. The issue is critical because, under current law, Congress appropriates \$4.4 billion for Indian health, and that amount is not nearly enough to

fund the Indian health system. The Affordable Care Act promotes new revenue, in the form of money from private insurance, Medicaid, Medicare and other payers, of approximately \$810 million.

But even that combined total of \$5.2 billion is not nearly enough. The Indian Health Service estimates that its per-person spending under this formula is \$2,849, compared to \$7,713 per-person spending for the U.S. population.

Advocates hope that third-party billing from insurance will eventually eliminate the funding gap. If enough people from Indian country get insurance from all sources, a fully funded health system could become a reality. Ideally, every pa-

tient would be educated about his or her insurance options, often at no cost, while at a health facility.

But a fully funded health system remains a distant promise.

The Affordable Care Act has had many problems. Initially, its web site did not function. A great deal of confusion remains about the available options for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Indeed, much of the early marketing for the Affordable Care Act should have been designed to educate Native Americans about their exemption from the insurance mandate. Instead, it emphasized why insurance could improve funding for the entire Indian health system.

The Affordable Care Act sets out to increase funding for Indian health programs in three ways: by expanding Medicaid eligibility; by helping people purchase insurance (called Qualified Health Plans) on their own; and by adding new insurance requirements for employers.

“IHS [the Indian Health Service] has estimated that the greatest impact for our patients is likely to be the Medicaid expansion and we estimate much greater potential for third party collections through Medicaid enrollment,” said Raho Ortiz of the IHS. “In the FY 2014 President’s Budget Request, IHS estimated collections from private insurance due to the Affordable Care Act to increase by \$5 million, and collections due to the Medicaid expansion to increase by \$95 million if all states adopted the expansion.”

That is where the political debate about the Affordable Care Act conflicts with the White House budget.

Many states have opted out for political reasons. Alaska, Oklahoma, Montana and South Dakota are among the states that rejected the Medicaid expansion. Of the nearly one million uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives, more than 460,000 live in states without Medicaid expansion. Thus, Ortiz said, the “estimates for Medicaid collections would be lower.”

According to next year’s IHS estimated budget, collections from private insurance may not change. But the potential increase from Medicaid collections is \$22 million. “Many of our patients are find-

ing when they enroll in the marketplace that they are newly eligible for Medicaid in those states that have implemented the Medicaid expansion and therefore do not need to purchase insurance,” Ortiz said.

The expansion of eligibility for Medicaid is already adding significant new sources to Native health programs in Washington State, said Ed Fox, director of Health Services for the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, who has compiled national data for a website devoted to health care reform for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Washington’s Medicaid program, Apple Health, is now as large a source of funding as the Indian Health Service.

Fox estimated that Washington is “halfway home” to enrolling uninsured American Indians and Alaska Natives through Medicaid, roughly 10,000 out of the 20,000 who should be eligible. At the Port Gamble S’Klallam Health Clinic, the increased insurance coverage has resulted in a 56 percent increase in revenues as well as a 46 decrease in write-offs because of uninsured health care.

But Washington is a state with Medicaid expansion. The flip side of that revenue increase is the demand for health services in states with tighter Medicaid rules. In these states, the Indian health system must rely on congressional appropriations.

IHS budgets are built from a recurring base. Therefore, local unit funds from the previous year become the base for funding during the next cycle. The law is designed to reward local health care agencies, whether tribal or IHS, for increased third-party billing.

“The burden on tribal communities is greatest when the state does not expand Medicaid since that means potential third party collections from enrollment of newly eligible individuals that can help to expand services at the local levels are not realized,” Ortiz said.

Put simply, there will be far less money to deliver Indian health care in states that deny Medicaid expansion. That is why the private insurance option is important in states without Medicaid expansion.

But that means that individual American Indian and Alaska Natives must take the step to sign up for insurance. Unlike

Medicaid, purchasing insurance through a marketplace exchange is based on national criteria, and most American Indians and Alaska Natives qualify for a subsidy.

However, the process is not automatic. Nationwide, fewer than 15,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives have joined Qualified Health Plans.

Efforts at outreach are ongoing. In Montana, for example, state officials and representatives from the IHS area office in Billings have sought to educate tribal members about the Affordable Care Act. “We’re at a whole new place trying to teach people about insurance,” said Lesa Evers, tribal relations manager for the Montana Department of Health and Human Services.

There are currently some 17,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives in Montana who are uninsured. As of April 19, 521 of them, or approximately three percent, have signed up through the exchange.

Evers is heartened by that figure because she feels it represents a successful early effort. “I’d rather have 521 people who have thought about this, rather than getting sign ups from people who would drop off later,” she said. Every one of these newly insured people, she expects, will in turn share their experience with others, thus eventually expanding the insurance network.

Another welcome sign comes from North Carolina where 10 percent of the eligible Native Americans have signed up for marketplace insurance.

Laura Bird, who is working on health issues for the National Congress of American Indians, feels this is “a good start.” But she added, “We still have work to do on increasing enrollment across Indian country. Given the special monthly enrollment period for enrolled members of federally recognized tribes and ANCSA Corporations, we still have an opportunity to increase enrollment in 2014.”

The next chapter in the Affordable Care Act drama has yet to be written. Still, said Ed Fox, “Against a lot of evidence to the contrary, I remain optimistic that we will figure out the Qualified Health Plan side of the ACA equation.”

<http://bit.ly/TmkqnW> 

Harper Is Ambassador

Senate confirms Cherokee Nation Citizen **BY ROB CAPRICCOSO**

Bottom Line: *The path to a human-rights ambassadorship for Keith Harper was long and tortuous. But the fight is now over—and he has won.*

Cherokee Nation Citizen Keith Harper was confirmed by a 52-42 vote of the Senate on June 3 as a human rights ambassador to the United Nations.

Harper is the first citizen of a federally recognized tribe to become a U.S. ambassador following the posting of J. Christopher Stevens, the U.S. ambassador to Libya, who was killed in 2012. Stevens was a citizen of the non-federally recognized Chinook Tribe.

Senators who supported Harper cited his Cherokee ancestry and the historic nature of his nomination as top reasons for championing him.

“Mr. Harper is a well-qualified and historic nominee [and] he enjoys strong support including from within Indian country,” Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-California) said in December.

A partner with the firm of Kilpatrick Stockton, Harper is widely known in Indian country for being a lawyer in the *Cobell* trust litigation and its \$3.4 billion ongoing settlement with the Obama administration. His longtime work on the case has been lauded by many Indians, as has his representation of tribes on other matters.

President Obama had twice nominated Harper for the human rights ambassadorship, the first time in June 2013. Harper had previously been a top campaign finance bundler for the president, and he served on the president’s transition team and on a presidential committee.

His nomination was not without controversy. Sen. John McCain (R-Arizona) noted in a floor speech on June 2 that the *Cobell* legal team sent and posted online a letter during the settlement phase of the trust case to members of the class that encouraged them to contact four Native Americans who appealed the settlement.

The letter listed the Native Americans’ addresses and phone numbers, and McCain viewed this as an invitation for harassment. McCain also said that Harper’s communications with the Senate over his involvement with the letter were dubious.

“What concerns me is his character, particularly his conduct in connection with a matter that could rightly be described as one of the greatest mistreatments of Native Americans by the federal government in recent memory,” McCain said. “That matter is known as the *Cobell* case.”

Senators who supported Harper cited his Cherokee ancestry and the historic nature of his nomination.

Through the course of Harper’s year-long confirmation process, two Indian lawyers have also said he was aggressive during past confrontations that were related to the *Cobell* case, while some tribal citizens said Harper had ignored some important tribal and Indian human rights issues.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) considered withdrawing support for Harper in early March, but ultimately reaffirmed its support after a vote by its board, and five NCAI presidents later wrote a joint open letter supporting him.

“Keith Harper has been a longtime


advocate for the civil and human rights of Native Americans and Indigenous people here and around the world,” the NCAI leaders wrote. “He has represented the National Congress of American Indians at the United Nations and Organization of American States in negotiations on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As a skilled litigator, tribal court judge and experienced advocate for tribal governments Mr. Harper’s unique skills and experience make him the ideal nominee for this important position.”

Dozens of other tribal leaders and prominent Indian lobbyists, lawyers and associates of Harper also sent the Senate letters of support for the nomination.

Harper himself asked several tribal leaders and Indian organization leaders in March to sign on to a letter that he and his supporters planned to send to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nevada).

“[W]e note that if confirmed Keith Harper would be the first Native American to serve as a United States Ambassador,” stated the letter that Harper circulated on his behalf. “This is not only important for America, but as this year the United Nations is holding its inaugural World Conference on Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations, we believe it is most appropriate for Keith Harper to be leading America’s effort and presence at the UN body charged with promoting and securing human rights around the world for all people.”

Harper is one of a handful of the president’s nominees to be approved as a result of the controversial so-called nuclear option established by Reid in November 2013 that allows a simple majority of the Senate to approve presidential nominees, as opposed to the previously necessary 60 votes.

Harper’s nomination achieved cloture on June 2 by a vote of 51-37, which allowed it to proceed to the full Senate floor for a vote. <http://bit.ly/1mONNHY> 

Not Separate, Not Equal

Feds look at Native children in public schools **BY TANYA H. LEE**

Bottom Line: *The federal government recently took a look at how American Indian children are faring in public schools—and the results are disturbing.*

Minority children in public schools are generally subjected to harsher, more frequent disciplinary measures than are white students, according to the report “School Discipline, Restraint, & Seclusion,” released by the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

The data collection that provided the raw material for the report covered all 97,000 U.S. public schools, which serve 49 million pre-K through 12th-grade students. Between 90 percent and 95 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native children are educated in public schools.

“The issue of unlawful racial discrimination in school discipline is... a civil rights issue,” said the Department of Education. “Title VI protects students from discrimination based on race in connection with all academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs and activities of a school, including programs and activities a school administers to ensure and maintain school safety and student discipline.”

The government determined, among other findings, that American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children, who represented 0.5 percent of enrollment of the schools included in this calculation, accounted for 2 percent of single and multiple out-of-school suspensions and 3 percent of expulsions. On the other hand, they accounted for only 0.2 percent of in-school suspensions.

By contrast, white students, who account for 51 percent of enrollment, constitute 40 percent of in-school suspensions, 36 percent and 31 percent of single and multiple out-of-school suspensions respectively and 36 percent of expulsions.

These numbers suggest that the harsher the punishment (with in-school suspension at one extreme and expulsion at the

other), the less likely it is to be applied to white students and the more likely it is to be imposed on AI/AN children.

Thirteen percent of AI/AN boys received out-of-school suspension, compared with 6 percent of white boys. Seven percent of AI/AN girls received out-of-school suspension, compared with just 2 percent of white girls. More than twice as many students with disabilities received out-of-school suspensions (13 percent) than did non-disabled students (6 percent). A whopping 29 percent of AI/AN boys with disabilities received out-of-school suspensions, compared with 12

Minority public-school children generally receive harsher and more frequent discipline than their white counterparts.

percent of white boys. Twenty percent of AI/AN girls with disabilities received out-of-school suspensions, compared with 6 percent of white girls with disabilities.

“The administration of student discipline can result in unlawful discrimination based on race in two ways: first, if a student is subjected to different treatment in discipline based on the student’s race, and second, if a discipline policy is neutral on its face—meaning that the policy itself does not mention race—and is administered in an evenhanded manner but has a disparate impact, i.e., a disproportionate and unjustified effect on students of a particular race,” said the Education Department.


William Mendoza, executive director of the White House Initiative on AI/AN Education, noted that the Office for Civil Rights report found other discrepancies in the education of AI/AN youth. For ex-

ample, American Indian kindergarteners repeat the grade at nearly twice the rate of white children, AI/AN students go to schools with more first-year teachers than do white students and AI/AN students have the highest dropout rate of any racial or ethnic population, with a graduation rate of just 68 percent, compared with 75 percent for all students.

Brent D. Gish, executive director of the National Indian Impacted Schools Association, put that number in perspective. While Congress established the Impact Aid program in 1950, it has not been fully funded since 1969. According to Dan Hudson, Wyoming State Impact Aid chairman and assistant superintendent of Fremont County School District #14, the Basic Support component of Impact Aid is currently funded at only 58 percent of authorization while the Payments for Property component is funded at just 3.5 percent of authorization.

But there is good news, as a number of panelists who contributed to the report testified. For example, Alberto Siqueiros, superintendent of the Tohono O’odham Nation’s Baboquivari Unified School District, told the committee how his school district is in the process of completely transforming itself from a mediocre educational endeavor into an excelling school district by putting everything—from teacher hiring to community involvement and expectations for both faculty and kids—on the table.

“Long gone are the days of low expectations, mediocre performance and results often seen in tribal educational settings,” Siqueiros said. “We insist that the entire BUSD community support our efforts in educating our children.”

The results include a nearly 40 percent increase in graduation rate since 2005, six Gates Millennium Scholars and one Dorance Scholar in the past three years and over \$2 million in scholarships in 2013. That year, 52 seniors graduated, 30 applied to college, 24 were accepted and 19 enrolled. <http://bit.ly/1kAk3k9> 



The Senate confirmed Cherokee Nation citizen Keith Harper last week as human rights ambassador to the United Nations.



Amazon chiefs protested in Brazil before this year's World Cup, arguing that its \$11 billion budget should go to support the country's poor.



Chester Nez, the last of the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers from World War II, walked on last week at the age of 93.



To the consternation of many Natives, Pharrell Williams appeared on the cover of the July issue of Elle UK in a Native headdress.

FLICKR/CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS ACTION FUND/RALPH ALSWANG; AP IMAGES/ERALDO PERES; COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS/KEVIN ANDERSON PHOTOGRAPHY

JOB DESCRIPTION FORM UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE

POSITION TITLE: UTTC COLLEGE PRESIDENT

REPORTS TO: UTTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STATUS: FULL-TIME EXEMPT

SUMMARY:

The UTTC board of directors will select and approve a UTTC president who will be a visionary and proven Native American education leader focused on organizing and managing institutional resources to carry out the 21st century mission of United Tribes Technical College in a professional and culturally-relevant manner.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Under the direction of the UTTC board of directors, the effective UTTC president will provide professional commitment and exemplary leadership toward...

1. Protecting the assets of the institution – people, land, facilities and resources.
2. Ensuring the integrity of how the college does business, in particularly in the classroom and in all managerial and business functions.
3. Seeking, organizing, managing and evaluating those human, physical and financial resources essential toward accomplishing the mission, goals and strategic plans of the college.
4. Actively attending to and sustaining institutional accreditation status, program certifications, unqualified audits and professional staff credentials.
5. Exercising effective management and communication skills for the engagement of institutional stakeholders (i.e., board members, executive management, program directors, staff and students) in achieving common goals and purposes, and in planning for the future.
6. Establishing and utilizing partnerships and networks within private and public sectors to promote common educational, research and public service objectives.
7. Representing the general needs, interests, successes and accomplishments of Tribal colleges and universities, Tribally-controlled educational institutions, and Native American communities

Competencies: The effective UTTC president will understand and demonstrate strong competencies in the following areas:

1. Visionary Tribal Leadership – understanding of the governmental status, issues, needs and interests of federally-recognized Indian Nations, reservation-based and off-reservation Native populations, and Native families; will have demonstrated leadership roles at state, regional and national levels to proactively address Native American issues.
2. Tribally-controlled Education – understanding of the history of Native American education, Tribally-controlled education models, Tribal colleges and universities, and the place of Tribal education institutions in contemporary education cultures; will have demonstrated a high level of commitment and advocacy for Native American issues.
3. Learning Assessment – understanding the psychology of learning among contemporary Native American students, and the most effective methodologies of teaching and learning assessment among

traditional and non-traditional Native American college students; familiarity with learning assessment methodologies for postsecondary academic programs and short-term workforce training; understanding the place of institutional metrics that show evidence of academic progress and achievement of workforce training objectives.

4. Workforce Development – understanding the development, planning, administration and evaluation of effective workforce training programs; familiarity with contemporary workforce trends and training resource opportunities.
5. Student Services Support – understanding of Tribal postsecondary processes from student recruiting and admissions to career guidance, retention, completion and placement; familiarity with other student services including housing, cafeteria, intercollegiate athletics, transportation, student health, campus safety and security, etc.
6. Elementary Education – familiarity with the general funding support and operation of a K-8th grade elementary school.
7. 1994 Land Grant Programs: familiarity with the history, program opportunities, funding and impacts related to Tribal college land grant programs.
8. Organizational Leadership & Management – understanding about intercollegiate management structures, committees, work groups and staffing; familiarity with personnel policies and procedures; ability to work positively with the Human Resources Office.
9. Communications Skills – understanding about communications skills: writing and speaking clearly and informatively, ability to make formal and informal presentations, ethical and appropriate use of technology and social media for communications purposes; understanding about maintaining and exercising confidentiality; demonstrating effective interpersonal skills to facilitate constructive and collegial human relationships.
10. Business Acumen – understanding about the timing and implications of business-related decisions; experience with budgeting processes and audits.
11. Problem-solving – ability to identify problems and challenges, and to use various methodologies to address these in a timely manner.
12. Data Analyses – understanding the value of data collection and analyses for decision-making purposes; familiarity with IPEDS, AIMS/AKIS, etc.
13. Facilities Management – familiarity with the development, planning, construction and maintenance of institutional facilities.
14. Strategic Planning – understanding about short-term and long-term strategic planning.
15. Research: understanding about the role and place of institutional

→
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

research in seeking answers to questions relevant to the education of Native Americans; familiarity with research methodologies and the role of IRBs.

16. Marketing/Public Relations – understanding about the importance of institutional image, branding, marketing, public relations, social media, and recruiting.
17. Technology - familiarity with technology applications related to general administration, business management, communications, information sharing, and school safety.
18. Ethics – understanding about the value of exercising ethical behavior in professional roles; being able to maintain personnel confidentiality (including FERPA); commitment toward protecting institutional assets; representing the college with integrity.
19. Respect for Diversity – understanding about human, intercollegiate and corporate diversity.
20. Conflict Management – understanding about how to mediate conflicts toward constructive resolution.

SUPERVISION:

Supervises: Legal, Human Resources Director, all Vice-Presidents, Development Director, Office of Public Information, Administration staff, WIA Director, Institutional Research, Director, DeMaND Director, BIA Law Enforcement Initiative, Baccalaureate Degree development, Institutional Training, USDA Land Grant Director, Cultural Arts-Interpretive Center, WIA Director, EDA University Center/FEMA, ND/SD NABDC Director, TTAP Director, Tribal College Financial and Empowerment Initiative; and special event programs such as Commencement, annual Pow-wow, annual Tribal Leaders Summit, etc.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Office setting with 90% of the time sitting, keyboarding, and on the phone.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

90% of the time sitting, repetitive keyboarding, and on the phone.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The ideal UTTC presidential candidate will possess the following:

1. Doctorate credential required in education, educational leadership, adult education, higher education administration or related fields from an accredited institution of higher education.
2. At least 7 years of successful experience in higher education with the experience preferred working in an executive management position of a Tribal college or university.
3. Experience and participation in working directly with institutional self-studies and education accreditation processes including those related to the NCA-Higher Learning Commission, state accreditation entities and professional certification organizations.
4. Extensive grant and contract management experience with private and public sectors including state, regional and national foundations, governmental programs at the Tribal, state, and federal levels, etc.
5. Proven experience with oversight of large financial budgets in excess of \$30.0 million.
6. Proven administrative experience managing a large employee base of 350 staff or more.

7. Active working experience with governmental agencies including the U.S. Department of Education (DoE), DoI/Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Department of Labor, National Science Foundation (NSF), Economic Development Administration, (EDA), N.D. Indian Affairs Commission (NDIAC), N.D. University System (NDUS), etc.
8. Demonstrated leadership roles in networking with professional organizations related to education including the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), American Indian College Fund (AICF), National Indian Education Association (NIEA), National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), First Americans Land-grant Consortium (FALCON), N.D. Association of Tribal Colleges (NDATC), etc.
9. Formal experience with research projects, methodologies and interpretive studies.
10. Exemplary writing skills as evidenced by articles and publications authored by the candidate.
11. Working knowledge and practice with various technology systems and applications including word processing, financial management spreadsheets, student data records, social media, etc.

PREFERENCES:

1. Preference will be given to bona fide American Indian applicants in accordance with UTTC policies and Federal Indian regulations for such preference.
2. If selected for the position, the applicant is subject to a complete background investigation with a favorable determination.
3. UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE, AGE, HANDICAP, MARITAL STATUS, POLITICAL PREFERENCE, OR MEMBERSHIP OR NON-MEMBERSHIP IN AN EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION, EXCEPT AS ALLOWED BY THE INDIAN PREFERENCE PROVISION OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, AS AMENDED.
4. PERSONS OF INDIAN ANCESTRY WHO ARE AT LEAST 1/4 DEGREE AND WISH TO CLAIM INDIAN PREFERENCE SHOULD SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR TRIBAL ENROLLMENT CERTIFICATE INDICATING THEIR DEGREE OF INDIAN BLOOD AND AGENCY ENROLLED.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Interested individual should submit the following application materials to the UTTC Human Resource Director or UTTC Board secretary Robert Shepherd

- Cover letter
- Current Resume
- Completed UTTC Application - call for a copy, or you can download a copy from www.uttc.edu.
- Reference letters or names, addresses and daytime phone numbers of three individuals familiar with your preparation /experience
- Unofficial copies of transcripts (Official copies required if hired)

HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE
UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE
3315 UNIVERSITY DRIVE
BISMARCK, ND 58504

Headlines from the Web

NAVAJO PANEL OKS DEAL TO END TRUST-FUND SUIT

<http://bit.ly/1oYT04I>

RAPID CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTS CONVERTING FEDERAL LAND TO TRIBAL LAND

<http://bit.ly/1mW0miQ>

NFLPA'S SMITH WEIGHS IN ON REDSKINS NAME; SOCIAL MEDIA GOES INTO OVERDRIVE

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

ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATIONS JOIN TO OPPOSE OIL TAX REFORM REPEAL

<http://bit.ly/1gBE89z>

TRIBAL MEMBERS SEEK ANSWERS ABOUT \$3.4 BILLION SETTLEMENT

<http://bit.ly/1i5Xkro>

OSAGE NATION GENERAL ELECTION AND MINERALS COUNCIL ELECTIONS UNDERWAY

<http://bit.ly/1pI4Ccv>

Upcoming Events

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TRIBAL CONSULTATION JUNE 16

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the Department of Health and Human Services will host a tribal consultation on ACF programs and tribal priorities, in accordance with President Obama's 2009 Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies on Tribal Consultation. Principals will be available to speak with tribal leaders to discuss issues important to the tribes and will focus on ACF tribal program priorities.

Location: Doubletree Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia

NATIVE AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY PROJECTS CONFERENCE JUNE 16-17

Through a series of panels, roundtable discussions and speakers, attendees will hear from top experts focusing on economic diversification. Featured will be diversification success stories, information on managing and balancing debt, risk man-

agement, legal/IRS updates and financing for both gaming and non-gaming projects. The event will be held in conjunction with the seventh annual Energy Projects in Indian Country Conference, at which attendees can learn about new developments in oil, gas solar, wind and biomass sources. Panelists will discuss the planning, developing and financing of new energy projects, as well as case studies and success stories that highlight the economic benefits associated with starting new energy projects.

Location: Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa, Anaheim, California

INDIGENOUS PEACEMAKING INITIATIVE ANNUAL CONFERENCE JUNE 16-20

Rupert Ross, lawyer and national bestselling author of *Dancing with a Ghost*, will teach the course "Exploring Indigenous Justice and Healing." Ross traveled across Canada examining aboriginal approaches to justice with a special emphasis on healing programs for victims, offenders, families, and communities; this course, part of the Canadian School of Peacebuilding at the Canadian Mennonite University, will focus on what those interested in re-

storative justice might learn by exploring indigenous approaches to justice and healing.

Location: Canadian School of Peacebuilding, Winnipeg, Manitoba

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES NATIVE AMERICAN GRANTEE CONFERENCE JUNE 17-19

A follow-up to the ACF consultation of June 16, the several workshops offered are geared toward grant program directors. The theme of this year's conference is "Honoring Our Commitments to Native American Families and Communities: Today and Tomorrow". The workshop tracks are "Accessing Educational Opportunities"; "Economic Opportunity NOW!"; "Promoting Health"; "Supporting Governance"; "Promoting Hopeful, Safe, and Healthy Communities"; "Understanding Grants Management and Administration"; and the listening session "ACF—Learning from You". Additionally, on June 20, several program offices will hold individual meetings for the grantees with whom they work directly.

Location: Doubletree Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The current debate over such sports team names as "Redskins" and "Braves" misses the big picture. For too long, American Indians have been forced to accept the systematic exclusion of "our side of the story" from the story of America. The so-called westward movement of imperialistic heroics of the dispossession of Indian tribes long ago gave the white establishment

its "self-permission" to create and use words and terms that became hurtful but passed along within the growth of this country. Words such as "squaw" and "prairie nigger" are both still in use. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, there are still several hundred places in this country that are identified by the derogatory word "squaw."

I too would like to see racist team

names changed. These names do not honor American Indians, as some would have us believe. How can these names honor us when we were the victims of a holocaust whereby 428 Medals of Honor were awarded to soldiers for killing Indians that included the killing of women and children?

— Vince Standing Deer (Navajo/Isleta)
Redmond, Washington

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



TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

NEW HEAD FOR HOUSING COUNCIL

The National American Indian Housing Council has elected Sami Jo Difuntorum as its new chairwoman. Difuntorum is a member of the Kwekaeke Shasta Tribe of California and is the executive director of the tribal housing department of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians in Oregon. Difuntorum will serve a two-year term, succeeding Cheryl Causley, a member of the Bay Hills Indian Community of Michigan. The election took place at the council's 40th annual trade show and convention, in Kansas City, Missouri.

JUDGE AFFIRMS NATIVE LANGUAGES

Overruling Alaska officials, a federal judge ruled last week that the state must translate all

election materials into Native languages for voters who have only limited English skills. U.S. District Judge Sharon Gleason concurred with a voting rights lawsuit, agreeing that Alaska should issue such materials as instructions, pamphlets, and ballots in the Yup'ik, Cup'ik and Gwich'in languages, as well as in English. It would be inconsistent with civil rights, Gleason wrote, for Alaska to offer "a lower level of assistance provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives than other minorities."

NARRAGNSETTS SEEK NAVY PROPERTY

The Narragansett Indian tribe has asked the federal government if it can acquire surplus Naval properties on Aquidneck Island in Rhode Island. Made through the Bureau of Indian

Affairs in April, the request by the Narragansett tribe "threatens to derail years of planning by the island communities of Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth, to redevelop some of the acreage once actively used by the Navy," the *Providence Journal* said. "We were kind of at the 11th hour," said Newport City Manager Jane Howington, "when the BIA decided to put in a claim."

RETRACING THE TRAIL OF TEARS

Members of the Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Nation are commemorating their forced removal of 1839-1839 via the "Trail of Tears" by bicycling the 950-mile path. Their annual ride, known as "Remember the Removal", began June 1 in Echota, Georgia,

the site of the Cherokee capital when the tribe was displaced. It will end in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, their current capital, on June 19. "There's a lot of soul searching that occurs," said Cherokee Indians Principal Chief Michell Hicks.

WASHINGTON STATE PARK-TRIBE AGREEMENT

The Nisqually Tribe and the State of Washington have agreed to a partnership on the further development of the 1,300-acre Nisqually State Park in the foothills of Mount Rainier. The site is an approximately 2½-hour drive north of the Portland/Vancouver area. Tribal chair Cynthia Iyall praised the agreement, noting that the area is the tribe's ancestral homeland, the birthplace of Chief Leschi and a critical habitat for salmon recovery.



Sealed bids will be received from June 1, 2014 through 3:00 PM June 30, 2014 at the office of the Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commission, Clearwater River Casino, 17811 Nez Perce Rd., Lewiston, ID 83501 or P.O. Box 365, Lapwai, ID 83540 for:

1. Annual audit for the financial statements for two tribal gaming operations, a Tier A and Tier C by an independent Certified Public Accountant (CPA) on the Nez Perce Indian Reservation. The audits will be conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, (GAAP) and must express an opinion on each set of financial statements. The audit report and management letters setting forth the results of each annual audit must be submitted to the Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commission, hereinafter NPTGC, within ninety (90) days after the end of the fiscal year, September 30, 2014.
2. The external internal audit by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) of the Tier A and Tier C gaming operations as required by the TICS. The selected auditor will perform procedures to verify implementation and substantial compliance with the Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Enterprise Internal Control Procedures, (ICPs) and the 1995 Nez Perce Tribe/State of Idaho Class III Gaming Compact, as amended. The firm must identify in its response how it will focus the audit on Title 31 BSA and gaming contracts over \$25,000.00. Pursuant to Section 2710 of IGRA. The results of such audit must be submitted to the NPTGC within ninety (90) days after the end of the fiscal year, September 30, 2014.

Bids will be opened in the President's office of the Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commission, 17811 Nez Perce Road, Lewiston, ID on Monday, June 30, 2014. The NPTGC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to determine which bids are conforming and to waive minor defects and irregularities.

Sealed bids shall be marked "CPA/AUDIT", addressed to Elliott Moffett, Director, Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commission, P.O. Box 365, Lapwai, ID 83540.

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



**Beginning on June 8, 2014
 1992 Davidson Avenue
 a 16 unit building located at
 1992 Davidson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10453
 will reopen its waiting list for rental to eligible
 persons with limited income**

Qualifications will be based on Section 8 Federal guidelines.

Interested persons may obtain an application by telephoning 718-562-2206 Monday - Friday 9 am - 12 pm or by writing to
 Zalmen Management LLC
 915 East 179th Street
 Bronx, NY 10460

Please do not submit more than One (1) application per family. If more than one (1) application is received it will be dropped to the bottom of the list.

If you have a disability and need help with the application process, please contact Marisol Torres, Compliance Manager at 718-562-2000 ext 206

Completed applications must be sent to the Post Office Box stated on the application form **by first class mail only.**

Must be received by the deadline of
JULY 15, 2014



The Seminole Tribe of Florida is seeking a **Clerk** to work in its Tribal Court System. In this role you will have an opportunity to assist in maintaining the files of all cases filed with the Seminole Tribal Court, the preparation and maintenance of dockets for court sessions, and the preparation and dissemination of court documents including summons, notices and subpoenas. The Clerk will also assist in collecting all fines and monies paid to or collected by the Court.

Apply today at
www.semtribe.com

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UPCOMING POW WOWS

2nd Annual Comanche Boyz Father's Day Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
287 Carrizo Canyon Road
Mescalero, NM
575-415-5467
NMPWS.com/calendar/june.html

Sac River/White River Bands of the Chickamauga Cherokee Nation Cultural and Art Show

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Chickamauga Grounds
Bolivar, MO
918-473-6677
lstockton@windstream.net
NorthernCherokeeNation.com

Stewart Father's Day Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Stewart Facility
5500 Snyder Avenue
Carson, NV
StewartIndianSchool.com

Prairie Band Potawatomi Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
158 Road & M Road
Mayetta, KS
888-727-4946 ext. 7701
cthomas@pbpgaming.com
PBPIndianTribe.com

Osage River Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Tuscumbia Riverside Park
Tuscumbia, MO
573-369-2710
oldjed@hughes.net
OsageRiverPowWow.com

Muddy River Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Wild Rose Park
28163 Willow Avenue

Farmington, IA
319-795-8802 or 319-208-4707
indianlakepowwow@aol.com
[Facebook.com/indianlakepark.powwow?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/indianlakepark.powwow?fref=ts)

Heber Valley Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
2002 Olympic Drive
Soldier Hollow, UT
801-360-8960
HeberPW.com

Coushatta Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Coushatta Casino Resort
777 Coushatta Drive
Kinder, LA
337-584-1602 x1603
lwilliams@coushattatribela.org
CoushattaPowWow.com

29th Annual Sokaogon Chippewa Strawberry Moon Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Mole Lake Pow Wow Grounds
Mole Lake, WI
15th Annual Intertribal Gathering
6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Fort Robinson State Park
Crawford, NE
308-430-4619
simmonsjoe30@hotmail.com

14th Annual Table Mountain Rancheria Pow Wow

6/13/14 — 6/15/14
Table Mountain Pow Wow Grounds
8184 Table Mountain Road, CA
559-822-2890

1st Annual Colorado Springs Indian Center Pow Wow

6/14/14 — 6/15/14
5225 East Platte Avenue

Colorado Springs, CO
719-964-2915
wamblir27@gmail.com

19th Annual Aboriginal Gathering

6/14/14 — 6/15/14
Peace River AIC
Agricultural Grounds
T8S 1H8 Peace River
Alberta, Canada
United States Minor Outlying Islands
PeaceRiverAIC.com

University of Calgary Graduation Banquet Pow Wow

6/14/14
University of Calgary
Red & White Club
T2N 1N4
Calgary, Alberta
[United States Minor Outlying Islands](http://UnitedStatesMinorOutlyingIslands)
UCalgary.ca/nativecentre/community/pow-wow

Pow Wow by the Sea

6/14/14 — 6/15/14
Pier Plaza
Seacoast Drive & Evergreen
Imperial Beach, CA
619-423-6610
grassdancer7@yahoo.com or
careercollegebythesea@yahoo.com
OneWorldBridge.org

Nanticoke Leni-Lenape Indian Pow Wow

6/14/14 — 6/15/14
Salem County Fairgrounds
Pilesgroves, NJ
Nanticoke-LenapeTribalNation.org/tribal-calendar-2/pow-wow/



This figure by Gene Billie, owner of Sterling Silver Sculptures/Unbound Designs, is typical of the items to be featured at the first Indigenous Fine Art Market on August 21-23 in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

COURTESY IFAM

THE BIG PICTURE