



Indian Country THIS WEEK FROM

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A Letter from the Publisher

Shekóli. As any indigenous person will tell you, the salmon, rivers and people of the Pacific Northwest will forever be inextricably entwined, their fortunes and future tied together. So it was no surprise that the nations of the Northwest stood strong recently and held their ground in opposing what they felt would be a detrimental development of a coal transportation route across their lands, culminating in a terminal on the Columbia River.

As reported in this edition of *This Week From Indian Country Today*, the Oregon Department of State Lands agreed, rejecting the plans and proposal for the rail line, which was first submitted for review in 2012 and required hundreds of hours of consideration and years of public commentary and data collection. Most heartening was the emphasis placed by the state on safeguarding treaty and fishing rights.

The collective opposing the rail line included the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fishing Commission, which represents the interests of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation; the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation; the Nez Perce Tribe; and the Lummi, who oppose any such terminals. Lummi



Nation Chairman Timothy Ballew II said of the state's decision, "This is important not just for the Yakama and Umatilla but all fishing tribes. Together we can, and will, protect our way of life."

The Lummi are in the midst of fighting a proposal for a similar terminal at Cherry Point in Bellingham, Washington, and the Quinault Indian Nation has stated its firm opposition to the coal terminals and transport of crude oil from the tar sands in Canada.

The protection of treaty rights and sovereignty is a universal principle for Native nations. This news from the northwest demonstrates a high level of communication and cooperation that starts with a mutual respect of sovereignty. It is news that will travel far.

Na kir wa,

Ray Halbritter

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Sitka to College: 'Stop Fighting Us'

Michael Baines, tribal chairman of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska, expresses his people's frustration that the trustees of the defunct Sheldon Jackson College intend to appeal a recent federal decision rejecting their claim to 160 acres by Redoubt Falls and surrounding areas near Sitka:


The trustees claim their motive is to ensure that the public has continued access to the sockeye fishery in the area. In early 2012, Sealaska, the tribe, the Forest Service, and the City of Sitka held intensive negotiations and produced a property

management agreement for Redoubt Falls that would go into place if the Bureau of Land Management transferred the 11 acres to Sealaska. Under that plan, the public would be guaranteed continued subsistence access. The Forest Service would have continued use of its weir and fisheries enhancement program at Redoubt Falls.

And under a separate agreement between Sealaska and the tribe, the tribe would have taken on primary responsibility for stewardship of the acreage. The property transfer to Sealaska would have been seamless, and the public would not have noticed anything different in the way the property was being managed.

The parties were near consensus when the trustees filed their claim, which brought the process to a halt.

If the Redoubt Falls property transfers to the defunct college, does it then become vulnerable to being taken by their creditors? What if one of their creditors seized control of the area, built a private fishing lodge, and closed the area to the public? Will anyone continue to administer property owned by the college in the future, when it is our understanding that the entity will cease to exist in the near future?

We respectfully ask the trustees to stop their appeal. Stop fighting us. You are scratching old wounds. <http://bit.ly/1mekBtf> 

The War Against the Comanche—And Against History


S.C. Gwynne's volume Empire of the Summer Moon, about the U.S. war against the Comanche, was a Pulitzer Prize finalist and a New York Times bestseller. But Peter d'Errico, a consulting attorney on indigenous issues, may not read it to the end:

The problem, at least so far as the introductory chapters go, is that the author doesn't use his critical stance on the invaders to see through the stereotypes. His critique does not immunize him from the invader culture. Again and again, he

makes such statements as that the whites were in "a truly anarchic place ruled entirely by Indians." He repeatedly refers to the Comanche as "primitive."

A key concept in his presentation is that the "American empire" was at war with the "Comanche empire." Yet he also admits that the Comanche "were content with what they had won," while the "Anglo-Americans, children of Manifest Destiny, were not." He also acknowledges that the Comanche "empire" was "not an empire in the traditional sense," and that it "was not based solely on military supremacy." Are these not such deeply significant differences that they undermine

the notion of two empires?

I took a break from the book on page 27, where he refers to Texas as the place where "human settlement first arrived at the edges of the Great Plains" and encountered "Indians [who] were primitive nomads and superb riders." Do we have to debate whether the Indians, however "primitive," were "humans"? Or do we have to parse his words so carefully to see that he may be using "human settlement" in a technical way, to mean those who build certain kinds of buildings and put up fences? If that's the case, we're still looking at a book that is confused and confusing. <http://bit.ly/1By9RQn> 

The Control of Tribal Justice

Last year the Indian Law and Order Commission made over 40 recommendations to make Indian Country safer. Though imperfect, say Charlie Hobbs, of the Washington, D.C. office of Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker LLP, and Tim Seward, of the firm's Sacramento office, the report—in conjunction with other initiatives—represents progress:


The commission recommended that the President and Congress act immediately to give tribes the option to break free of federal and/or state prescriptive commands of criminal laws and procedure affecting public safety in Indian Country,

and to handle all criminal justice themselves. It recommended federal legislation that offered Indian tribes the authority to "opt out" of existing federal Indian Country jurisdiction and/or federally authorized state criminal jurisdiction.

To assure the protection of constitutional rights for non-Indians, Congress has raised the bar higher for tribes who wish to exercise special domestic violence jurisdiction. A tribe must provide any defendant in a criminal proceeding with four specific rights. First, the defendant must be granted all applicable rights defined in the Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA). Second, if imprisonment of any length may be imposed, then the defen-

dant is entitled to all rights defined in the 2010 Tribal Law and Order Act amendments to the ICRA. Third, the right to a trial by an impartial jury is guaranteed.

Finally, all other rights whose protection is necessary under the Constitution "in order for Congress to recognize and affirm the inherent power of the participating tribe to exercise" the special domestic violence jurisdiction must be kept intact.

These provisions do not give Tribes criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians, except in the domestic violence context. They do, however, provide tribal governments with an opportunity to lay the foundation for broader reform. <http://bit.ly/1AplnIqG> 

Was Native American Studies Professor Fired For Criticizing Israel?

BY GALE COUREY TOENSING

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) has fired a tenured professor in its American Indian Studies program, apparently after he tweeted comments criticizing Israel and its recent military actions in Gaza.

Dr. Steven Salaita, a Palestinian-American scholar in Native American studies who has done groundbreaking work in comparative analysis of the Native American and Palestinian peoples' experiences, was set to begin teaching on August 16 after resigning his position as an associate professor of English at Virginia Tech. But on August 1, UIUC Chancellor Phyllis Wise effectively ended his appointment, reported the *Chicago Tribune*, which received university documents under the public records law. Wise said that the board of trustees was unlikely to approve Salaita's appointment so she would not forward it to them, the *Tribune* said.

"We believe that an affirmative Board vote approving your appointment is unlikely," Wise wrote. "We therefore will not be in a position to appoint you to the faculty ... Thank you for your interest in and consideration of the University of Illinois."

News of Salaita's dismissal broke on August 6 in a posting on *Inside Higher Ed*. The posting noted that UIUC would not discuss Salaita's termination, but that "sources familiar with the university's decision say that concern grew over the tone of his comments on Twitter about Israel's policies in Gaza. While many academics at Illinois and elsewhere are deeply critical of Israel, Salaita's tweets have struck some as crossing a line into uncivil behavior."

An online petition demanding Salaita's reinstatement has garnered more than 15,000 signatures, and Wise has been deluged with messages from scholars promising to boycott UIUC until he is reinstated. <http://bit.ly/1odwjdT>

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

Fish Kill Averted as Interior Agrees To Release Water Into Klamath River

After weeks of lobbying by tribes and experts monitoring water levels and temperature in the Klamath River, Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell has authorized the release of water from its largest tributary to avert a fish kill.

With California suffering from prolonged drought, the Hoopa Valley, Karuk and Yurok tribes have been pressing officials to release water from Trinity River dams to prevent disease from starting and spreading among fish. Conditions, they said, had been dangerously close to those that killed tens of thousands of fish in 2002, compromising fisheries and traditional ways of life for years.

On August 22 the Bureau of Reclamation announced it will reverse a June 30 decision not to release water and will instead take water from Trinity Reservoir "to supplement flows in

the lower Klamath River to help protect the returning run of adult Chinook salmon."

"We have determined that unprecedented conditions over the past few weeks in the lower Klamath River require us to take emergency measures to help reduce the potential for a large-scale fish die-off," said Mid-Pacific Regional Director David Murillo. "This decision was made based on science and after consultation with Tribes, water and power users, federal and state fish regulatory agencies, and others."

Tribal authorities called the move a victory for fishing rights, the environment and traditional knowledge. "The Hoopa Tribe basically dropped everything they were working on to address this issue," Hoopa Valley Tribe Chairwomen Danielle Vigil-Masten said. "The right thing for Secretary Jewell to do was to fulfill her trust responsibility to the Hoopa Valley and Yurok Tribes. This is an essential first step." <http://bit.ly/XGjVHK>

Redskins Appeal Trademark Revocation

BY ROB CAPRICCIOSO

Lawyers for the Washington Redskins filed a court appeal on August 14 to overturn a recent decision by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that cancelled the team's trademarks on the basis that the football team's name is disparaging.

Indian Country had widely celebrated the June 18 trademark revocation, although many saw it as a symbolic victory, as the team could continue to use its name while it appealed the decision.

If the team's new appeal—which was filed in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Virginia—is unsuccessful, it can still appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. And even if the team ultimately loses its case in both federal courts, it could still attempt to protect its trademarks by turning to state laws.

In filing the appeal, team lawyers said

the trademark office's decision was mistaken. "We believe that the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board [TTAB] ignored both federal case law and the weight of the evidence, and we look forward to having a federal court review this obviously flawed decision," Bob Raskopf, a trademark lawyer for the team, said in a statement reported by *The Washington Post*.

The team's lawyers have said they plan to introduce new evidence that will show the name is not disparaging. Lawyers for Amanda Blackhorse and several other Native Americans who have led the most recent battle against the team's trademarks said they were not surprised by the filing.

"We were expecting the team to file this challenge to the TTAB decision," Jesse Witten, a lawyer with Drinker Biddle, told Indian Country Today Media Network. "We are ready." <http://bit.ly/1AKCwGU>

New Tribal College for San Carlos Apache

BY TANYA H. LEE

The tribal council of the San Carlos Apache approved articles of incorporation on August 11 for a proposed namesake college and is now assembling a board of directors and of regents in the hope of opening the school's doors in August of 2015. The tribe is working with Eastern Arizona College to develop a curriculum.

San Carlos Apache Tribal College is also being developed with the help of Arizona State University (ASU), with whom the tribe signed a Memorandum of Understanding in June. At the tribe's request, ASU is providing advisors for the project, among them John Tippeconnic, Comanche, director of American Indian Studies at ASU.

"One of the key elements in starting a tribal college is accreditation," said Tippeconnic. "That's where I think we at ASU can assist them.

The tribe is also thinking about building a campus and facilities to house the tribal college. That's always a challenge and that's another place where we can help."

The new college will fulfill several needs, said tribal chairman Terry Rambler, among them employment and the facilitation of renewed agriculture and water rights. "We want to provide employment opportunities on our lands for our people," he said. "The bottom line is that the tribal college will prepare people for the jobs that are already on the reservation and the ones that are coming," Rambler said.

Finally, Rambler said, he hopes the college will help preserve the Apache language for the tribe's 15,300 members: "We have an elders advisory council. They and other elders say retaining our language is a priority. We hope the college will be a driving force in accomplishing that." <http://bit.ly/1qjPeyH> 📍

Rising Tide Threatens Native Historic Sites in Channel Islands

Indigenous people, primarily the Chumash, inhabited the Channel Islands as far back as 13,000 years ago. But now, historic village sites in the islands are at danger of being lost because of rising seas.

Thus reported the *Los Angeles Times*, which recently visited Santa Cruz Island, where 11 historic village sites have been identified, with archaeologist Torben Rick, curator of anthropology at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History. "Things like this are golden because they can help us better understand the people who lived here and how they dealt with some of the same unstoppable forces we face today," Rick said as he picked up a small pink bead. "The trouble is, a few more storms and all this valuable history will be washed out to sea."

Conservationists and archaeologists recently took the first full accounting of sites threatened on Santa Cruz Island. Of the dozens of sites recently surveyed, eight were designated "code red," meaning they have significant archaeological resources and are in danger of being destroyed by rising ocean levels.

The team that performed the survey even conducted an "emergency archaeological rescue" of artifacts—arrowheads, stone implements, woven rope and fabric—buried in layers of sand and driftwood in a remote cave.

"The real tragedy, and the urgency, is that sea level rise is destroying wholesale the opportunity to learn about our past—information we can use to be better conservationists," Scott Morrison, the Nature Conservancy's director of conservation science, told the *Times*. "We're trying to do something about that."

"We're standing on a living history book," said Gil Unzueta, a Chumash Indian who is monitoring the survey effort. "And we're losing pages from it every day." <http://bit.ly/1w5mRwE> 📍

Deaths of Two First Nations Women Renew Calls for National Inquiry

Calls are being renewed for a national inquiry into the vulnerability of aboriginal women to violence in the wake of the murder of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine, whose body was pulled from the Red River in Winnipeg, Manitoba on August 17.

Fontaine's death, which has been ruled a homicide, came just a few days after the discovery of the remains of Samantha Paul of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Band in British Columbia, hundreds of miles away. Paul, who was

25 when she went missing in September 2013, was found on June 1 near Kamloops First Nation. Although a cause of death has not been determined, her family believes she was murdered.

Fontaine had last been seen in downtown Winnipeg on August 8, CBC News said. She had been living in foster care and had run away, the Canadian Press reported.

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and other indigenous leaders called once again for a national inquiry into the suspicious deaths that all too often befall Native women.

"This tragic incident is yet another

stark reminder of the urgent need for action to ensure safety and security for all indigenous women and girls," said AFN Alberta Regional Chief Cameron Alexis. "We are calling for immediate action to prevent any further tragedies as well as a national public commission of inquiry to look into root causes and long-term efforts. The federal government has offered no clear or defensible rationale for its refusal to establish an inquiry. We know Canadians stand with us when we say that no other family, individual or community should have to experience this kind of loss." <http://bit.ly/1oXGsoG> 📍

Former College Head Now On Cobell Panel

American Indian College Fund names David Gipp

David M. Gipp has been appointed by the American Indian College Fund to serve as the fund's representative on the Cobell Board of Trustees. Gipp, the former president of United Tribes Technical College, currently serves as the college's chancellor, focusing on outreach, partnerships and development. He is the founding executive director of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium. Currently he is an emeritus trustee of the College Fund Board and served on a committee that helped establish the fund's involvement in making scholarships with a portion of the Cobell settlement. <http://bit.ly/1kKw6NJ>

Funds For Affordable Bishop Paiute Housing

More than \$4 million in state, federal money

The Bishop Paiute Tribe of California has received more than \$4 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs) for an affordable housing project. Together with Travois, a Kansas City-based consulting firm, the tribe has received \$3,446,131 in California LIHTCs and \$884,507 in their federal equivalent. The funds will help build 30 new homes and a new community building. The community building will boast 3,000 square feet of space and include a playground and barbeque pit. It will be used for meeting space and feature a kitchen and restrooms. The facility will also be equipped

with solar panels that could meet 75 percent of its annual needs for electricity. <http://bit.ly/1s5Co9h>

News Show Targets Indigenous Concerns

ICTMN contributor featured in interview

An August 15 segment of the program "The Heat" on CCTV News that was devoted to dispelling myths about Native cultures featured an interview with Indian Country Today Media Network contributor Simon Moya-Smith, who stated that such cultures are often marginalized as mascots and subject to cultural appropriation. The segment broached the controversial name of the Washington Redskins NFL franchise and culminated in a discussion about political activism. "Politically speak-

ing, it's really hard to be Native American and not be political," Moya-Smith told the host, Anand Naidoo. "We're not always welcome in the political arena because we rage against things like the Keystone XL Pipeline." <http://bit.ly/1t9rnVa>

Ancient Native Remains Discovered in Two States

Fragments were found one day apart

Two sets of body remains of prehistoric Native Americans were found last week in California and Indiana. On August 15, a passerby happened upon human teeth and bone fragments on a small beach near the Sacramento River, the *Daily Democrat* reported. The Yolo County Coroner's Office announced that the bones were



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prehistoric; the Chico State Human Identification Laboratory said they were Native American. The next day, other bones were discovered at a popular lake in Steuben County, Indiana. Additional human remains were located in the water by state scuba divers. Archaeologists from the University of Indianapolis ascertained that these remains, too, were of a “pre-historic” Native American. <http://bit.ly/1p0rz4T> 📍

Record Columbia River Salmon Return

A million and a half Chinook on their way

The number of Chinook salmon that are returning to spawn up the Columbia River is set to exceed last year’s record of nearly a million, with some 1.5 million fish returning this fall. The

commercial fishing season has already opened, with fishers from the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama tribes taking to the Columbia with the first of five tribal commercial gillnet openings beginning on August 18, according to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. Snake River fall Chinook are also expected to be plentiful, the commission said, with 61,000 returning, which constitutes another record. <http://bit.ly/1oLAc9n> 📍

Music Legends To Protest Pipeline

Benefit concert will oppose Keystone XL

Music legends Neil Young and Willie Nelson will perform in the September 27 “Harvest the Hope” benefit concert near Neligh, Nebras-

ka, which is on the route of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. Proceeds will go to Bold Nebraska, the Indigenous Environmental Network and the Cowboy & Indian Alliance, to fund the ongoing fight against the pipeline, as well as to a number of small, community-based clean energy projects on farms and tribal land. The concert is being hosted by a family who are among a coalition of those refusing to sell their land to TransCanada, which hopes to build the pipeline. <http://bit.ly/1sSUWxE> 📍

STEM Grants For Native Academics

Faculty will help mentor students

Four Native academics will help mentor science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) students

through a newly funded program of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society. The National Science Foundation recently awarded the society \$1.5 million for its five-year project, Lighting the Pathway to Faculty Careers for Natives in STEM. The academics are Chris Cornelius (Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin), a chemical engineer from Virginia Polytechnic University; Mary Jo Ondrechen (Mohawk), a professor of chemistry and chemical biology at Northeastern University in Boston; Robert Megginson (Lakota), a mathematician and associate dean at the University of Michigan; and Melinda McClanahan (Choctaw), retired chief information office for the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. <http://bit.ly/1v3IbKA> 📍



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Northwest Tribes Celebrate Oregon Coal Train Rejection

Columbia River route is turned down

Bottom Line: Coal transport to Asia by railroad is a flashpoint among tribes in the Pacific Northwest. But a recent Oregon state department decision has given cause for optimism.

Tribes who oppose the transport of coal by rail through their territory are celebrating the August 18 decision of the Oregon Department of State Lands to reject a permit application for a coal terminal along the Columbia River. They are especially pleased that the decision was partly based on treaty and fishing rights considerations.

Ambre Energy, the company that wants to ship 8.8 million tons of coal annually to Asia through the proposed Coyote Island Terminal at the Port of Morrow, has said it will appeal the decision. But opponents are calling the decision a precedent that will halt other, even larger, proposed projects.

“Today’s landmark decision reflects what is in the best interest of the region, not a company’s pocketbook,” said Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission chairman Carlos Smith. “This decision is one that we can all celebrate. It reaffirms the tribal treaty right to fish, is in the best interest of the Columbia Basin’s salmon populations, and our communities. It is a reflection of what is best for those who would be forced to live with the consequences of Ambre’s proposal, not what is best for those who would profit from it. This is the beginning of the end for this toxic threat—the Tribes will stand with the State to protect its sound decision.”

In making its decision, the Department

of State Lands stated that “while the proposed project has independent utility, it is not consistent with the protection, conservation and best use of the state’s water resources, and that the applicant did not provide sufficient analysis of alternatives that would avoid construction of a new dock and impacts on tribal fisheries.”

The decision involved hundreds of staff hours of reviewing time. This in-



The Yakama Nation protests against a coal terminal that could be built along the Columbia River in Boardman, Oregon.

cluded reading more than 20,000 public comments and poring over data during the course of months, said department director Mary Abrams. The application was initially filed in 2012.

“We used data provided by a wide array of parties, and weighed this information against what Oregon law says we must take into consideration in making removal-fill permit decisions,” said Abrams. “We fully believe that our conclusion to deny the Coyote Island Terminal permit is the right one.”

Although the terminal would be relatively small compared to others being proposed in the Northwest, the decision could set a precedent, according to those

who are closely monitoring the issue.

“This decision is a significant setback to Ambre Energy’s proposal,” said the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. The commission coordinates fisheries and policy on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and the Nez Perce Tribe.

The Lummi have been outspoken in their opposition to just such a terminal at Cherry Point in Bellingham, Washington. The Quinault Indian Nation has publicly opposed rail transport of coal, as well as that of crude, from the Alberta oil sands in Canada and the Bakken in the Dakotas and Montana. The Yakama Nation, whose territory the trains would also pass through, has taken a firm stand as well.

“Yakama Nation will not rest until the entire regional threat posed by the coal industry to our ancestral lands and waters is eradicated,” said Yakama tribal council chairman, JoDe Goudy. The Lummi, who strongly oppose the terminals, said that those fighting against the coal conglomerates are in for a long fight.

“The state’s action makes a strong policy statement by recognizing tribal sovereignty and the treaty rights of the Columbia River tribes,” said Lummi Nation Chairman Timothy Ballew II. “Such decisions are few and far between. This is important not just for the Yakama and Umatilla but all Indian fishing tribes. Together we can, and will, protect our way of life.” <http://bit.ly/1tCVyW2>

Meeting Economic Development Challenge in Indian Country

How Streamlined Regulations Can Boost Growth

Bottom Line: Native American communities have taken great strides in developing their economies and raising the quality of life on tribal lands. However, as President Obama noted during his historic visit to Indian Country in June, there are still wide disparities between Native Americans and the overall U.S. population.

On June 25, 2014, William “Mike” Lettig, Executive Vice President and National Executive of KeyBank’s Native American Financial Services segment, had the privilege to testify at a U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Hearing on the role that investment plays in encouraging economic development in Indian Country. KeyBank has helped raise more than \$3 billion in capital for Indian Country in the past five years and is on track to assist in raising more than \$1 billion in 2014 alone, making Key a formidable expert on Indian Country investment matters.

In his testimony, Lettig delivered a very clear message to the U.S. Senate Committee: Tribes have access to resources and assets that—if fully developed—could significantly enhance the well-being of their communities. Unfortunately, economic progress is often blocked by burdensome regulatory barriers. Reducing the review process and creating more autonomy for tribes to attract business, investors and developers is imperative to helping Indian Country communities thrive.

The Economic Development Need in Indian Country

While incomes for Native Americans living on reservations have nearly doubled since 1970, their earnings are only a frac-

tion of the U.S. average. In several states, less than 50 percent of working-age Native Americans on or near tribal lands are working. In addition, progress is uneven:



Lettig: Access with fewer regulations

Some tribes are experiencing economic gains in recent years while many others face overwhelming hardships.

Poverty on reservations from 2006-2010 was 30 percent compared with 14 percent nationally, and some of the worst poverty rates in the nation are in Indian Country communities, as Lettig noted in his remarks. Native American communities face significant challenges in developing a workforce able to meet the needs of business. Indian Country lags the rest of the country by significant margins in high school graduation rates and attain-

ment of technical and college degrees.

Streamlined Regulations + Tribal Independence = Economic Sustainability

In his testimony, Lettig underscored that the private sector still has doubts about Indian Country as an investment opportunity. Government regulatory obstacles contribute to this uncertainty and present significant challenges to economic development in Native America.

For example, all new infrastructure construction on tribal lands requires rights-of-way approval—a time-consuming and ponderous process—and tribes must gain Department of Interior (DOI) approval before any public-private partnership initiatives move forward.

Economic development on tribal lands can involve multiple agencies, including not only the DOI but Housing and Urban Development, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy and the Indian Health Service, to name just a few. Astonishingly, there is no single coordinator for economic activity at the federal government.

Regulatory Simplification Initiatives—Progress is on the Way

On June 16, 2014, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell emphasized the need for reducing the regulatory burden on Indian Country and moving toward greater tribal independence. To that end, the administration has designed a package of regulatory initiatives with the goal of greater tribal self-governance and autonomy. The most significant initiatives include:

- **Facilitating Indian Country infrastructure development:** The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is proposing streamlined rules for right-of-way approvals on Native American land and provide tribal leaders, private companies, utility firms and energy developers greater certainty when designing or implementing infrastructure projects.
- **Removing barriers to land development through increased tribal self-governance:** The BIA will ramp up training on the Helping Expedite & Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (HEARTH) Act. The HEARTH Act provides tribes the opportunity to establish and enforce their own land leasing regulations in order to expedite the process for long-term leasing of tribal trust lands.
- **Supporting new markets for Native American and Alaska Native small businesses:** The DOI will seek to increase federal procurement opportunities under the Buy Indian Act and raise BIA procurement purchases from Native American-owned small businesses.
- **Making federal data and resources for tribal economic development easier to find and use:** The federal government will partner with tribes in a series of workshops to improve tribal access to data and create new tools to make data more accessible for tribes.
- **Encouraging the use of tax-exempt bonds for tribal economic development:** The Treasury Department will expand awareness and understanding of Tribal Economic Development (TED) bonds used to finance economic development projects.

In addition, as proposed in the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2014, the government would transfer authority to tribes and streamline the review process for energy development. Lettig noted in his testimony that these are all positive steps in making self-determination and self-government a reality.

Success Stories Underscore Potential for Indian Country

Despite the obstacles that Indian Country faces, several tribes have been successful in economic development initiatives.

Puyallup Tribe of Indians (Pacific Northwest): Marine View Ventures, Inc. is the economic development arm of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. It manages a variety of industrial and commercial properties on the Puyallup Reservation and leases some of these properties to tenants for purposes ranging from construction and operation of an international shipping container terminal to port support services and a recreational marina.

Seneca Nation (NY): The Seneca Nation of Indians has developed a sophisticated and comprehensive planning process to boost job creation, increase investment, improve infrastructure and encourage economic diversification.

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska: Ho-Chunk, Inc. is the economic development corporation owned by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. It operates over 30 subsidiaries in a diverse range of industries including information technology, construction, government contracting, professional services, wholesale distribution, office products and technology, logistics, marketing, media and retail.

Navajo Nation (Arizona, New Mexico, Utah): The Navajo Nation has developed the largest Native American court system in the U.S. Harvard Law School called it “the most active tribal judicial system in the United States, with a case load that rivals, and in some instances exceeds, many municipal, county, and state judicial systems.”

Alaska Native Corporations: Alaska’s Native corporations (ANCs) are an important part of the state’s economy and on track to play an even more significant role in the future. Among Alaska’s largest enterprises and employers, the 12 regional ANCs and village corporations employ 58,000 people worldwide.


As these examples illustrate, Indian Country has great potential. A simplified regulatory environment and tribal autonomy would enable Native American communities to achieve even more.

The Road to Economic Independence: Indian Country’s Responsibilities

In his testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Lettig underscored that Indian Country leadership must play a major role in creating a new economic development environment based on greater tribal autonomy. Leaders need to stay focused on economic development, infrastructure improvement, judicial system updating and the creation of intellectual capital.

Importantly, tribes must have a long-term development strategy and policies and procedures to demonstrate readiness for more autonomy. Finally, Lettig emphasized that tribal leadership should engender cooperation between tribes and develop working relationships with city, county, state and federal governments where there are multi-jurisdictional interests.

Raising the quality of life in Indian Country through economic development is an important goal, one that KeyBank places high on its list of priorities. One of the first financial institutions to create a dedicated team to serve Native American communities, KeyBank’s Native American Financial Services Team offers one of the most extensive financial platforms designed to help Indian Country meet its economic development needs.

The information and recommendations contained herein are compiled from sources believed to be reliable and represent the best current opinion on the subject. No warranty, express or implied by KeyBank is made as to the absolute correctness or sufficiency of the information contained. This is meant as general information only, particular situations may require additional actions. KeyBank is Member FDIC. <http://bit.ly/1sPzMA5> 

Victory In Choctaw Foster Case

Affirmation of Indian Child Welfare Act **BY SUZETTE BREWER**

Bottom Line: *In a crucial decision, a California court has rejected the argument of a child that sought to adopt a Choctaw child that they have the rights as the biological parents.*

The Second District Court of Appeals in California on August 15 unanimously ruled against a non-Native foster couple seeking to adopt a Choctaw child in their care. The court rejected the couple's argument that they have the same constitutional rights and standing as biological parents.

The case, *Children and Family Services v. J.E., et al.*, involved the couple Summer and Russell Page, who sought permanent custody of a Choctaw child known as "Baby A." The father had given up his efforts to reunite with the child and asked that it be placed with his relatives in Utah under the "preferred placement" section of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA).

The court struck down all constitutional claims by the Pages, as well as their argument that the "existing Indian family" exception—which requires significant cultural and familial ties with the tribe in determining custody placements—did not apply.

The court agreed with the foster parents, however, that a lower court erroneously applied a standard of "certainty" to show Baby A would be harmed by removing her from their care. By reversing and remanding a lower court's placement order, which would have removed

the child to ICWA-compliant relatives in Utah, the three-judge panel ruled that the case will now go back to trial in California for further review.

In ordering a new trial, however, the court also detailed California's long legal and legislative history with the ICWA and affirmed unequivocally that the burden of proof that there is a "clear and convincing" reason to stray from the act

cal mother, who has a history of drug use and had lost custody of six other children, disappeared soon after giving birth to Baby A, according to court documents.

Baby A's father, who also has a history of drug use and a criminal record, took sole responsibility for raising the newborn. But he was arrested in 2010 for grand theft auto and selling stolen car parts. After he was released from jail on December 31, 2011, he embarked on an unsuccessful, 18-month quest to recover his child.

In July 2012, after a year and a half of trying to regain custody of Baby A, he became depressed, anxious and frustrated over what he considered the ongoing and unnecessary "stalling" by the State of California. After reluctantly terminating his reunification plan, he requested that his child be placed with ICWA-compliant relatives in Utah. He hoped to maintain some kind of relationship with the

child, although his parental rights and standing in the case remain in tact.

By that time, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma had intervened to support the father's placement choice, as had both the child's attorney and its guardian *ad litem*, both of whom were appointed by the court to protect the child's best interests.

After the father gave up trying to reunify with his child, the Pages began seeking to gain permanent custody of Baby A. They did this despite prior and repeated warnings by the Department of Social Services that Baby A was an Indian child whose placement with them was

The court struck down all the couple's constitutional claims, as well as their argument that the 'existing Indian family' exception to the Indian Child Welfare Act, which requires significant cultural and familial ties to determine custody, did not apply.

will fall on the foster parents.

"This decision is doing two things at once," said Barbara Atwood, an emeritus professor at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law. "It rejects the 'Existing Indian Family' exception (EIF) argument, upon which the California courts have been split. Secondly, it also rejects the constitutional issues raised by the foster couple, at least in dicta, which is huge."

Baby A was born in November 2009 and has been in state custody for years; the Pages are the child's third foster custodians. The child's non-Indian biological

only temporary—until the child could be reunited with her father, or be placed with ICWA-compliant relatives or tribal members.

But according to court documents, the couple had “fallen in love” with the child and retained a legal team to contest a lower court ruling that the child should be removed from their care. They argued that they were now “de facto” parents with the same constitutional rights as biological parents.

Additionally, the Pages argued that when the Choctaw Nation consented to Baby A’s temporary custody with them, it “waived” the application of the placement section of the law. The section specifies the following preferences, in order of priority: A member of the child’s extended family; other members of the Indian child’s tribe; or other Indian families.

The tribe’s attorney, Melissa Middleton, argued at the appellate hearing that the tribe had never waived its rights and placement preferences under ICWA. She asserted that they had, in fact, intervened early on and had also consented to and supported the father’s placement wishes.

Referring to California Senate Bill 678, the appellate judges were explicit in regard to the importance of upholding the Indian Child Welfare Act. “Both federal and state law expressly provide that if a state or federal law provides a higher level of protection to the rights to the parent or Indian guardian of an Indian child, the higher standard shall prevail,” they wrote.

The court decision rejected the constitutional challenges raised by the Page legal team. “Here, the [Pages] acknowledge [the child’s] placement with them was not an adoptive placement and they were consistently made aware that the ICWA’s placement preferences were applicable,” the appeals court wrote. “They knew at all times the placement was intended to be temporary to facilitate reunification and [Baby A] would either reunify with [the]

Father or be placed with another family under the ICWA’s placement preferences.”

Hence, they found, “Even if we were to conclude the [Pages] had standing to challenge the ICWA’s constitutionality, we find their arguments unpersuasive.”

But legal experts are divided over what some consider a controversial decision to reverse and remand the previous placement order by the lower court. On the one hand, said a Washington lawyer who declined to be identified, the father and the tribe won on the constitutional and standing issues. Nonetheless, the lawyer said, “They are back in front of the trial court to re-assess whether good cause exists under a standard more favorable to the non-Indian foster parents.”

J. Eric Reed, a Dallas-based criminal defense attorney who is also a member

es specified in the act.

“Overall, this bolsters ICWA and provides a standard for clear and convincing evidence to deviate from the placement preferences outlined in ICWA,” she said. “It rejected the foster parents’ constitutional arguments, it rejected the EIF exception, and it announced a very tough burden of proof for anyone trying to establish good cause.


“Of course,” she continued, “it also held that certainty of harm to the child is not required, that evidence of bonding with current caregivers is admissible, and that a court should consider the child’s best interests. This does not mean that the foster parents will prevail on remand, since clear and convincing is a very high standard, but it does open up the evidence.”

The appellate judges acknowledged that going back to trial would prolong Baby A’s time with the Pages, which may weigh more heavily in their favor, since the child will have even more time to bond with them. Still, they felt it was necessary to include additional factors, including bonding and attachment, and best interests in regards to the child’s placement.

“We recognize that a final decision regarding [the child’s] adoptive

placement will be further delayed as a result of our determination of the merits of this appeal,” they wrote. “That delay is warranted by the need to insure that the correct legal standard is utilized in deciding whether good cause has been shown that it is in the best interest of Alexandria to depart from the ICWA’s placement preferences.”

Nonetheless, ICWA advocates across the country lauded the decision, which denies that foster parents have the same rights as biological parents.

“The de facto parent status of the foster parents did not seem to sway the court at all,” said Atwood. “They are not ‘parents’ under ICWA and must still contend with ICWA’s placement preferences.” <http://bit.ly/1tiz3Xc> 

‘We know that the Indian Child Welfare Act works and that it’s in place for a reason: The best interest of our children is tied to their continued contact with their families and communities.’

of the Choctaw Nation, is cautiously optimistic about the court’s ruling.

“We are hoping that by referring the case back to the lower court that the court will continue to uphold federal Indian law by placing the child with relatives who will love and support the kid and help maintain contact with the father and the tribe,” Reed said. “We know that the Indian Child Welfare Act works and that it’s in place for a reason: Because the best interest of our children is tied to their continued contact with their families and communities.”

Atwood, however, believes that the standard of “clear and convincing” evidence still falls heavily upon the foster parents to prove that there is good cause to deviate from the placement preferenc-

Ute Indian Tribally Designated Housing Entity is hiring for (ICDBG) Director and Resident Services Coordinator

Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Director

Closing Date: September 12, 2014

The Ute Indian Tribally Designated Housing Entity (UITDHE) is seeking Qualified applicants for the position of ICDBG Director to oversee two ICDBG projects. The position will be full-time for the duration of both projects which will be funded for the next five years.

ICDBG project #1 will consist of the rehabilitation of up to approximately 16 Mutual Help home located through-out the Ouray and Uintah reservation. The rehabilitation will consist of exterior and interior work depending on the need as identified in the needs analysis for each home.

ICDBG project #2 will consist of the rehabilitation of up to approximately 23 private homes owned by low-income tribal members through-out the Ouray and Uintah reservation. The rehabilitation will consist of exterior and interior work depending on the need as identified in the needs analysis for each home.

The ICDBG Director's responsibilities will consist of and not limited to:

- Coordinating the implementation of all grant activities, including the over-sight of outside contractors.
- Maintaining records for all contract status and financial monitoring.
- Serves as a liaison to MH participants and private homeowners.
- Coordination of temporary relocation of MH participants and private homeowners.
- Provide monitoring of project implementation to insure projects are on schedule and within budget.
- Under the supervision of the Executive Director.

Qualified applicants will have a minimum of five years of construction/rehabilitation experience along with knowledge of relevant HUD regulations pertaining to the ICDBG Program and any professional licenses or certifications pertinent to the construction/rehabilitation profession. Salary DOQ.

Interested applicants may contact the UITDHE at 435-722-4656 to request an employment application.

Resumes may also accompany a completed employment

Application which can be mailed to:

Tom Yellow Wolf
Executive Director UITDHE
P.O. Box 250
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

Title: Resident Services Coordinator

Supervisor: Executive Director

Closing date: September 12, 2014.

PRIMARY FUNCTION:

The Resident Services Coordinator will work with UITDHE staff, other tribal departments, and outside service providers to connect tribal residents to supportive services that will help them attain economic and housing self-sufficiency. The Resident Services Coordinator will focus primarily on helping residents to achieve homeownership and employment.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate a local Program Coordinating Committee of service providers and facilitate quarterly meetings of the Committee
- Outreach to tribal housing residents to market available services
- Conduct individual assessments of interested residents to determine assistance needed
- Connect residents to local and regional supportive services to improve financial literacy, complete education goals, access job opportunities, and receive vocational training
- Coordinate service providers and oversee delivery of services, including working with both internal and external parties to provide service, training, and mentoring
- Communicate and network with local, state, and federal agencies and organizations to tap into development opportunities for program participants, including indentifying additional funding sources and programs
- Market and coordinate homeownership assistance, financial literacy, and home maintenance courses
- Monitor progress of program participants
- Report on and evaluate program activities, including tracking outcomes
- Other duties, as assigned

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Associate or Bachelor degree preferred. A combination of work experience may be considered in lieu of a college degree.
- Working knowledge of mortgage financing
- Counseling experience, with the ability to communicate with local tribal members in a manner that fosters a comfortable working relationship.
- Demonstrated success in producing results through facilitation of supportive services within the last five years, such as the number of jobs found as a result of training, improvement of credit scores, or the number of new homeowners assisted.
- Experience preparing marketing materials and presenting materials to individuals and groups.
- Must be able to travel as needed.

Interested applicants may contact the UITDHE at 435-722-4656 to request an employment application.



Tony Award-winning actress Idina Menzel will perform at the American Indian College Fund Gala on October 20.



A record spawning of salmon is expected in the Columbia River this year.



The sculptures for "Footprints: The Inspiration and Influence of Allan Houser" were recently placed at the Museum of Indian Art and Culture.



The 36th Annual Thunderbird American Indian Mid-Summer Pow Wow took place at the Queens County Farm Museum in Glen Oaks, New York.

AP IMAGES; US FOREST SERVICE; MIAC; RICK MAIMAN/POLARIS

NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SENIOR APARTMENTS FOR RENT

COUNCIL TOWERS VII HDFC is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for 78 Section 8-assisted one bedroom housing rental apartments now under construction at **2219 Givan Avenue** in the **Co-op City** section of the **Bronx**. This building is being constructed through financing from the New York City Housing Development Corporation (HDC), the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

ONE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER MUST BE AT LEAST 62 YEARS OF AGE TO QUALIFY

Apartments Available	Apartment Size	Household Size*	Total Annual Income Maximum**
78	1 Bedroom	1 2	\$29,400 \$33,600

*Subject to occupancy criteria
 **Income guidelines subject to change

Tenant Rent is approximately 30% of Gross Household Income based on Section 8 guidelines and includes gas for cooking. Qualified Applicants will be required to meet Section 8 guidelines and additional selection criteria.

Applications may be requested by mail from:

Council Towers VII; c/o Met Council
 120 Broadway, 7th Floor
 New York, NY 10271

OR by telephone:

(212) 453-9613 (please speak clearly)

Applications can also be picked up in person at the following locations:

Council Towers I
 777 Co-op City Boulevard
 Bronx, NY 10475
Monday – Thursday 9am – 4pm
Friday – 9am – 2pm only

Met Council
 120 Broadway, 7th Floor
 New York, NY 10271
Monday – Thursday 9am – 4pm
Friday – 9am – 2pm only

Individuals can also download an application from the internet at www.metcouncil.org/housing or email requests to ct7inquiry@metcouncil.org. Completed applications must be returned by **REGULAR MAIL ONLY** to a post office box number that will be printed on the application, and must be postmarked by **September 24, 2014**. Applications received after this deadline will not be processed until applications received by the deadline are processed. One household member must be at least 62 years of age to qualify. Applications will be selected by lottery; applicants who submit more than one application will be assigned a higher log number (least chance of obtaining an apartment). Eligible households that include persons with mobility impairments will receive preference for 4 of the units.

No Broker's Fee. No Application Fee

Bill de Blasio, Mayor

New York City Department of
 Housing Preservation and Development

Vicki Been, Commissioner

New York City Housing Development Corporation
 Gary Rodney, President



PROBATION OFFICER – Supervise parole and probation caseload, conduct investigations, and write recommendations/reports. Qualifications: College coursework in Criminology, Police Science/related, 2 year experience. \$34-36K/year. OUF

GENERAL LEDGER ACCOUNTANT – Reconcile accounts through adjusted journal entries. Review financial reports for accuracy. Qualifications: Degree in Accounting, Business/related, experience with governmental accounting. \$41-44K/year. OUF

TRIBAL COMPTROLLER – Perform accounting and fiscal analysis in review and preparation of records, maintain fiscal compliance. Qualifications: Degree in Business Administration/Accounting, experience in public accounting and supervision. \$59-62K/year. Closing 9/4/14

GRANTS ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST – Provide budget and administrative support for contracts/grants. Monitor draw downs, prepare financial reports. Qualifications: Degree in Accounting, Business/related, grant reporting experience. \$41-44K/year. Closing 9/19/14

COURT ADMINISTRATOR –Direct Tribal Court system to ensure timely flow of documents and written records of court proceedings. Qualifications: Degree in Public Administration, Criminal Justice/related, 5 years judicial experience. \$36-38K/year. Closing 9/19/14

CHIEF OF POLICE – Direct the enforcement of laws/regulations, perform administrative tasks, budgets, reports, and investigations. Qualifications: Degree in Criminal Justice, Public Administration/related, law enforcement/supervisory experience, POST certified. \$51-53K/year. Closing 9/19/14

NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR – Plan and administer environmental protection and water resource activities, including water acquisitions and litigations. Qualifications: Degree in Environmental Science/related, environmental/supervisory experience. Negotiable. Closes 9/25/14

PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE
 PO BOX 256
 NIXON, NEVADA 89424
 Phone 775-574-1000
www.plpt.nsn.us

Request for Proposal

Request for Full Service Marketing/Advertising Agency



St. Croix Casino Background

The St. Croix Chippewa own and operate three gaming properties in Northwest Wisconsin. 1,000 machines + in Turtle Lake, 500+ in Danbury and 100+ in Webster/Hertel WI.

Project Description

Project may include assisting the internal Marketing Department with Advertising/Media Planning and Buying, Promotional structure/scheduling and strategic implementation of promotions, Review of current Entertainment offerings and assisting with pro and post forma's for events, review of Tour & Travel program to include effectiveness of existing efforts, Direct Mail strategy, re-investment and analysis, Establishing Player Development Departments and goals of such areas.

Design Requirements

St. Croix Casino Enterprise design work adheres to an existing Brand Standards guideline. This guide may be reviewed and modified pending agency recommendations. St. Croix Casinos are not looking to re-brand, however are open to an update of existing brand design specifications in line with company goals.

Estimated Project Duration

Agency of Record will be contracted for one year with the option to renew.

Submission Information

Deadline for submission is Sept 15th, 2014. Proposals may be submitted via email to Director of Marketing, Jamie L. Buck. jamie.buck@stcroixcasino.com

ST. CROIX CASINOS
 Turtle Lake, WI - phone 715-896-4777 | Danbury, WI - phone 715-656-3444 | Hertel, WI - phone 715-349-5668 | stcroixcasinos.com

Headlines from the Web

'TWISTED CEDAR' GIVES TRIBAL WINE A UTAH PRESENCE

<http://bit.ly/1oQH2JI>

NFL REDSKIN'S REPRESENTATIVES VISIT ZUNI PUEBLO LOOKING TO BUY ARTWORK

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

FEDS STAYING OUT OF CADDO LEADERSHIP DISPUTE FOR NOW

<http://bit.ly/1Bgs7h9>

COUNTY OPPOSES EASIER RULES FOR INDIAN TRIBE RECOGNITION

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

STAKES ARE HIGH IN FRACKING DEBATE ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS

<http://washex.am/1rv9bV8>

HIGHWAY PATROL, TRIBE JOIN FORCES IN POW-WOW

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

Upcoming Events

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION SEPTEMBER 2-3

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals of Northern Arizona University, which provides training, assistance and educational resources to tribes on climate change issues, will offer a one- and one-half day course to provide an introduction to its strategies, highlighting the work of several Tribes. Topics include climate change in the Pacific Northwest, planning for climate change impacts, developing and implementing adaptation strategies, and tools and resources for the planning process.

Location: Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Portland, Oregon

13TH GATHERING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF THIRTEEN INDIGENOUS GRANDMOTHERS SEPTEMBER 4-7

"The Sacred Hoop of Peace and Compassion" will include a keynote address on "Importance of Education," fireside/wisdom prayers, breakout sessions, lectures on such subjects as permaculture and outdoor survival, a blessing of music, gifting and recognitions, and a screening of the *Grandmothers Film For the Next 7 Gen-*

erations. Hosted by Unci Rita Long Visitor Holy Dance, Oglala Lakota.

Location: Spearfish Holiday Inn convention Center, Spearfish, South Dakota

NATIVE INDIAN HEALTH BOARD ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 4-9

"Empowering Native Youth . . . for the Health of It," this year's incarnation of the Native Youth Health Summit, will feature a series of workshops that will guide youth to create digital stories that highlight their own experiences and thoughts on Native health, as well as educational panels and fitness activities. Included will be discussion of diabetes, suicide, and other critical health-related issues.

Location: Navajo Nation, Window Rock, Arizona & Albuquerque, New Mexico

TRIBAL RECOGNITION PROCESS TELECONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 5

The Interior Department has extended the public comment period and additional tribal consultations and public meetings on proposed regulations to reform the process by which the department formally and officially recognizes Indian tribes. The existing regulations governing federal recognition of Indian tribes were adopted in 1978 and updated only once 20 years

ago. While they established a structured procedure for evaluating federal acknowledgment, this system has been widely criticized as being too time-consuming, sometimes arbitrary and generally "broken." Written comments may now be made through September 30.

Contact Information: 1-888-323-4307, participant passcode 4823348

FIFTH ANNUAL PACIFIC NORTHWEST CLIMATE SCIENCE CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 9-10

The conference is the region's premier opportunity for a cross-disciplinary exchange of knowledge and ideas about regional climate, climate impacts, and climate adaptation science and practice. The conference also provides a forum for presenting emerging policy and management goals, objectives, and information needs related to regional climate impacts and adaptation. Conference participants include policy- and decision-makers, resource managers, and scientists from academia, public agencies, sovereign tribal nations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Emphasis is on talks that are comprehensible to a wide audience on topics of broad, widespread interest.

Location: University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Duane Champagne's column "There Are No Urban Indian Ghettos" (August 16) was very insightful.

In New York City and Long Island, the local tribes make use of the American Indian Community House and functions

in the area to maintain cultural continuity. Historically, we have blended into the surrounding communities out of necessity, and you will not find any community that is specific to Natives.

I think the standard should be to ac-

knowledge the fact that we still reside within our traditional territories, which consist of the boroughs of New York City and Long Island.

—Mark Rogers
Huntington, New York

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



The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe is currently hiring for the following position:
Peacemaker TCAP

To view the Job Announcement, please go to www.millelacsband.com.

If interested, send your application, resume, and cover letter to:

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
Attn: Employment Specialist
43408 Oodena Dr.,
Onamia, MN 56359

Position Description
Crow Tribal Court
Court Administrator

Judicial Branch: Tribal Court
Wage: To be determined based upon qualifications and experience; contingent upon available funding; salary range from current federal minimum wage (7.25/hour) to \$25/hour.

Career Status: Conditional upon successful probationary evaluation and budget appropriations.

GENERAL STATEMENT: The Court Administrator contributes to the efficiency of the Court

System by providing management and supervision of non-judicial personnel as assigned.

For a full job description or to apply please contact:

Dean Bird
Crow Tribal Court
Crow Agency MT, 59022
406-638-7400
dbird@crowtribalcourts.org



Torres Martinez
Desert Cahuilla
Indians TANF

Invitation for BID DUE
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014
RFP # 10246

TMTANF Case
Management System

www.torresmartinez.org
or email
Jswenson@TMDCI-nsn.gov

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP #2014-3110

San Carlos Apache Tribe
Finance Department
Audit Services

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be received by the San Carlos Apache Tribe-Finance department for Audit Services for fiscal year 2014 with an option to extend to an additional two years if approved. You may request a copy of the RFP from Rose Polk, Purchasing Agent, email rose.polk@fin.scat-nsn.gov. The proposals will be received until September 11, 2014 until 1:00 pm Arizona time.

The proposals must be mailed to RFP #2014-3110, San Carlos Apache Purchasing Department, PO Box 0, 20 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, Arizona 85550.

Please direct any and all questions to Rose Polk, Purchasing Agent, email rose.polk@fin.scat-nsn.gov.

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TOP NEWS ALERTS

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CLATSOP-NEHALEM SEEK RECOGNITION

The Clatsop-Nehalem Tribe of Oregon has begun its bid to reclaim formal federal recognition, with a House resolution introduced on July 28 by Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Oregon). Both the Clatsop and Nehalem were among 61 tribes whose claims for federal status were dismissed 60 years ago this month, the *Chinook Observer* reported. Clatsop County Commissioner Scott Lee called the decision one of Washington's "most egregious acts of the 20th century." The tribe's hereditary leader, Joe Scovell, died on August 6.

NAVY REJECTS BIA LAND BID

The U.S. Navy has declined a

request by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to transfer surplus land on Aquidneck Island to the Narragansett Tribe of Rhode Island. Deputy Assistant Navy Secretary Joseph Ludovici said the decision was made because the BIA would not accept the land in "as is" condition and would not assume certain legal and environmental risks, reported the *Newport Daily News*. The Navy will attempt to discharge the land to the three communities where it is located, Ludovici added.

LUMMI MAY PUSH FISHING CLAIMS

By a 2-1 vote, a federal court has allowed the Lummi Nation to continue to pursue its treaty fishing claims. Three other tribes had for years tried to

exclude the Lummi from fishing in certain waters to the west of northern Whidbey Island; in 2011 a U.S. district judge affirmed the restriction. But on August 19, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a reversal, based on confusing geographical definitions. "[T]his issue has not yet been decided explicitly or by necessary implication," wrote Judge Carlos Bea.

TEJONS WILL SOON CLOSE ROLLS

The Tejon Tribe of California, which was recently recognized by the federal government, will close its enrollment at the end of the business day on September 15, following a 30-day window for application, reported the *Mountain Enterprise*. The announcement was made via a

legal notice that appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* on August 17. Eligibility requires descent from the federal census of the tribe as compiled by Special Indian Agent John Terrell in 1915.

A BUILDING FOR COWLITZ MENTAL HEALTH

For \$1.445 million, the Cowlitz Tribe has purchased an office building in Vancouver, Washington to house its mental health division. The 13,694-square-foot structure occupies a property of 1.3 acres. The building, said Tamara Fuller, vice president of the real estate firm NAI Norris, Beggs & Simpson, which represented the seller, "is an exceptional property and location. Its purchase highlights the trend to repurpose existing space to fit user needs."

UPCOMING POW WOWS

Poplar Indian Days Celebration

8/28/14 — 8/31/14
American Legion Park
Poplar, MT
406-650-4694

Choctaw Nation Annual Labor Day Festival and Pow Wow

8/28/14 — 8/31/14
Choctaw Capitol Grounds
Tuskahoma, OK
580-924-8280
ChoctawNation.com

Ashland Labor Day Pow Wow

8/29/14 — 8/31/14
Ashton Pow Wow Grounds
Ashland, MT
406-784-2883 or 406-784-6149
CheyenneNation.com

Wee Gitche Ni Mi I Dim Leech Lake Labor Day Pow Wow

8/29/14 — 8/31/14
Located by Palace Casino
Cass Lake, MN
218-308-3120
LLOjibwe.org

Foothills Native American Pow Wow

8/29/14 — 8/31/14
Thurmond Community Center
Thurmond, NC
336-306-4656
Facebook.com/events/207566225972467/

44th Annual Barona Pow Wow

8/29/14 — 8/31/14
Barona Stars Baseball Field
1095 Barona Road
Lakeside, CA
619-443-6612 ext. 271

lwhitecloud@barona-nsn.gov
Barona-NSN.gov

24th Annual Shawnee County Allied Tribes Traditional Pow Wow

8/29/14 — 8/31/14
Lake Shawnee
3315 Tinman Circle
Topeka, KS
785-554-0124
shawneecountyalliedtribes@gmail.com or
cchouteau2@aol.com
ShawneeCountyAlliedTribes.org

High Plains Pow Wow

8/30/14
Carbon County Fairgrounds
523 Rodeo Street
Rawlins, WY
307-328-2740
education@carboncountymuseum.org
[CarbonCountyMuseum.org/index.php/
events/high-plains-powwow](http://CarbonCountyMuseum.org/index.php/events/high-plains-powwow)

Totah Festival Pow Wow

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Farmington Civic Center
200 West Arrington
Farmington, NM
800-448-1240
[FarmingtonNM.org/pages/totahfestival.
html](http://FarmingtonNM.org/pages/totahfestival.html)

Oceana County Intertribal Honoring Our Elders Traditional Pow Wow

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Oceana County Fairgrounds
1025 South State Street
Hart, MI
231-894-8361
missbeatty@hotmail.com

North Country Intertribal Pow Wow

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Newport, ME
207-368-4944 or 207-368-4959
ncountrypowwow1@yahoo.com

Eufaula Indian Community Pow Wow and Homecoming

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Eastside Ball Park
Eufaula, OK
918-707-0361 or 918-617-7985
jaydee.tiger@yahoo.com
EufaulaChamberOfCommerce.com

6th Annual Kentucky Native American Heritage Museum Honoring Our Veterans Pow Wow

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Phillips Farm
4116 Cumberland Falls Highway
Corbin, KY
606-528-6342
sioux80@msn.com

54th Annual Tecumseh Lodge Pow Wow

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Tipton County Fairgrounds
Tipton, IN
317-745-2858
powwow@tecumseh lodge.org
TecumsehLodge.org

33rd Annual Iroquois Festival

8/30/14 — 8/31/14
Iroquois Indian Museum
324 Caverns Road
Howes Cave, NY
518-296-8949
info@iroquoismuseum.org
IroquoisMuseum.org



'Corn Mother' is a representative bronze sculpture by Al Qoyawayma, a co-founder of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.

THE BIG PICTURE