



Indian Country THIS WEEK FROM

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

A Letter from the Publisher

Shekóli. On the first day of the New Year, New Yorkers AND others throughout the country mourned the loss of a truly great man—Mario Cuomo. Gov. Cuomo was a historic leader and true statesman. He understood that one of the most important roles of a public servant is to work to bring people together for the common good. He committed his life to making sure that when it comes to public policy, everyone—not just the powerful—are represented.

As leaders of Indian nations can attest, negotiating with the federal government on a nation-to-nation basis comes with an established set of risks and rewards. But diplomacy at the state and local level can sometimes bedevil even the most sensible courses of action. Relations with various departments and members of state governments are often subject to winds of change, and long-term plans often falls prey to political expediency. Not so with Gov. Cuomo, who held firm to his beliefs no matter what the circumstance. As we relate in this week's feature, he was a man of vision.



For the Oneida Nation, Governor Cuomo was a steadfast ally. He was the leader who forged New York State's first modern-day sovereignty agreement with our people. That agreement helped further cement our right to self-determination and self-sufficiency and put Central New York on a path toward sustainable shared prosperity.

His legacy as a courageous leader and consensus builder will be a model for future leaders in our nation for generations to come. We commit to honoring his legacy by continuing to build the roads of friendship and partnership that he so embraced and for which he stood.

Na ki' wa,

Ray Halbritter

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How to Fund Contract Support Costs

Philip Baker-Shenk, former general counsel to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and W. Ron Allen, chairman and CEO of the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, argue that tribal contract support costs (“CSC”) should be funded by the federal government’s mandatory spending accounts.


For decades, Congress and the Office of Management and Budget shied away from paying the full contract support costs owed to tribes. Even today, the widely heralded move by Congress to fully fund CSC has come at a price. The Budget Control Act and its sequestra-

tion impact has resulted in full funding for CSC being reprogrammed from program accounts and diminished services to tribal communities.

The only fair and honorable answer is to pay tribal CSC costs—governed by indirect cost rates that are negotiated under common federal rules to meet actual expenses reflecting regional cost differences—from mandatory spending accounts and to hold them exempt from sequestration. Whatever is a tribe’s real administrative cost should be paid, so long as it conforms to the reasonable and necessary expenditure requirements of a negotiated federal rate. And that payment of CSC should not come at the expense of program

funding accounts.

CSC fits with the definition of exempt mandatory spending, which is composed of programs funded by formulas set in law and paid out of accounts with guaranteed appropriations. Such accounts include Social Security, certain health care programs, and what is known as “other mandatory spending.”

It is time for the Obama administration and Congress to further fulfill the historical, moral and legal obligations the United States has to the 566 American Indian and Alaska Native Nations by using the FY 2016 budget reconciliation process to include tribal CSC funding within exempt “other mandatory spending.” <http://bit.ly/1zrBqGS> 

The Real Upshot of the Cuba Opening

The big news about the normalization of relations between the U.S. and Cuba, says Jose Barreiro (Taino), assistant director for history and culture research at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, is the reclaiming of the island nation’s sovereignty:


More than a thorn, Cuba has been a lance poking at the side of the American giant, whose endeavor to isolate and destroy it has collapsed now in the recognition of its own failure.

Cuba, during its years in the Soviet orbit, was perceived to be a dependent

state of that global American nemesis, and devoid of its own indigenous force. But the very proof of Cuba’s indigenous nature is in its sovereign survival beyond the collapse of the Soviet bloc. When petroleum supplies dried up, Soviet-style farms went belly up and caloric intake across the country dropped by two thirds.

But survive Cuba did, as a nation and as a sovereign government. Its people held off starvation, in no small part, by massively planting and adapting from the old Taino crops and medicinal herbal knowledge, while launching agro-ecological projects across the whole island. That new era, now a quarter-century

along, required huge sacrifice and a “make-do” attitude harking back to the Great Depression. The notion of “food sovereignty,” a lost memory during the Soviet-supplied era, remains high in the present agenda. And the message of the elder Taino cacique from the eastern mountains—Don Panchito Ramirez—of community, peace and food abundance, is resonating.

The present era—rapprochement after half a century of open hostility—requires redefinition, adaptation and transformation. The dream of sovereignty, and its practical exercise, remains central to the Cuban people’s future. <http://bit.ly/1zXkQTp> 

The Problems With Rio Tinto

The recent federal land transaction with the Rio Tinto Mining Company is disgraceful on any number of counts, says Steven Newcomb (Shawnee, Lenape), co-founder and co-director of the Indigenous Law Institute:


When Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015 on December 12, it approved a land swap that will hand over to Rio Tinto a 2,400-acre area that is part of the traditional territory of—and sacred to—the Apache Nation. The area is the location of a massive copper deposit that will

now be mined.

When Phil Stago of the White Mountain Apache Nation complained to Rep. Paul Gosar (R-Arizona) about the pending land swap, Gosar responded, “You’re still wards of the federal government.” A follow-up statement issued by Gosar’s office said, in part, “One of the federal government’s dirty little secrets is that Native American tribes are not fully sovereign nations in today’s society.”

Statements by rhetorically skilled statesmen need to be carefully parsed. If Gosar had made explicit the relationship between the U.S. and Indian nations, his comment would trace to

the word “colon,” which is the root of “colonization.” The root of the word “colon” is “colo,” which means “to filter out impurities in the process of mining.” Mining all resources, even human resources, is the background context and purpose of the imperial process of colonization.

The land swap in Arizona illustrates perfectly the political relationship of domination that the United States has with what were originally and still are rightfully free and independent Indian nations. In this case, Rio Tinto gets the mine on sacred Apache lands and the Apache Nation, once again, gets the shaft. <http://bit.ly/1Bgn8D> 



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- Applicants with mobility impairments (5%)
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- Municipal employees (5%)

1. View the Available Units...

2. See Unit Requirements...

| Unit Size | Monthly Rent* | Units Available | Household Size** | Annual Household Earning*** |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Studio | \$494 | 5 | 1 person | \$18,618 - \$23,520 |
| 1 bedroom | \$533 | 13 | 1 person | \$19,989 - \$23,520 |
| | | | 2 people | \$19,989 - \$26,880 |
| 2 bedroom | \$648 | 12 | 2 person | \$24,000 - \$26,880 |
| | | | 3 people | \$24,000 - \$30,240 |
| | | | 4 people | \$24,000 - \$33,560 |
| 3 bedroom | \$743 | 4 | 3 people | \$27,600 - \$30,240 |
| | | | 4 people | \$27,600 - \$33,560 |
| | | | 5 people | \$27,600 - \$36,280 |
| | | | 6 people | \$27,600 - \$38,960 |
| 4 bedroom | \$835 | 1 | 4 people | \$30,858 - \$33,560 |
| | | | 5 people | \$30,858 - \$36,280 |
| | | | 6 people | \$30,858 - \$38,960 |
| | | | 7 people | \$30,858 - \$41,460 |
| 8 people | \$30,858 - \$44,320 | | | |
| Studio | \$640 | 5 | 1 person | \$23,623 - \$29,400 |
| 1 bedroom | \$689 | 13 | 1 person | \$25,338 - \$29,400 |
| | | | 2 people | \$25,338 - \$33,600 |
| 2 bedroom | \$835 | 12 | 2 person | \$30,412 - \$33,600 |
| | | | 3 people | \$30,412 - \$37,800 |
| | | | 4 people | \$30,412 - \$41,950 |
| 3 bedroom | \$959 | 4 | 3 people | \$36,006 - \$37,800 |
| | | | 4 people | \$36,006 - \$41,950 |
| | | | 5 people | \$36,006 - \$45,350 |
| | | | 6 people | \$36,006 - \$48,700 |
| 4 bedroom | \$1,076 | 1 | 4 people | \$39,120 - \$41,950 |
| | | | 5 people | \$39,120 - \$45,350 |
| | | | 6 people | \$39,120 - \$48,700 |
| | | | 7 people | \$39,120 - \$52,050 |
| 8 people | \$39,120 - \$55,400 | | | |
| 1 bedroom | \$844 | 22 | 1 person | \$30,652 - \$35,280 |
| | | | 2 people | \$30,652 - \$40,320 |
| 2 bedroom | \$1,022 | 36 | 2 people | \$36,823 - \$40,320 |
| | | | 3 people | \$36,823 - \$45,360 |
| | | | 4 people | \$36,823 - \$50,340 |
| 3 bedroom | \$1,175 | 14 | 3 people | \$42,412 - \$45,360 |
| | | | 4 people | \$42,412 - \$50,340 |
| | | | 5 people | \$42,412 - \$54,420 |
| | | | 6 people | \$42,412 - \$58,440 |
| 4 bedroom | \$1,317 | 2 | 4 people | \$47,383 - \$50,340 |
| | | | 5 people | \$47,383 - \$54,420 |
| | | | 6 people | \$47,383 - \$58,440 |
| | | | 7 people | \$47,383 - \$62,460 |
| 8 people | \$47,383 - \$66,480 | | | |

* Rent includes gas for heat and cooking. Tenant responsible for Electricity.

** Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

*** Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income for household members. Income guidelines are subject to change.

How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to: www.nyc.gov/housingconnect. To request an application by mail, send a postcard or self-addressed envelope, to: Elton Owner II, LLC c/o Gateway Elton, 1166 Elton Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11239. Only send one application per development. Don't submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **February 19, 2015**. Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.



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This Week From Indian Country Today eNewsletter!



Sacred Blindness

Godly places are in the eye of the beholder **BY STEVE RUSSELL**

Bottom Line: *A list website of the world's top religious destinations is, to say the least, shortsighted.*

There is a “list website” called The Daily Eight. A list website makes lists that are intended as click bait, places teasers here and there on the Internet and sells advertisements based on how many eyeballs the click bait brings in. You know the kind of thing I mean: “Five Actresses Who Started in Porn Films.” “Cars Under \$15,000 Promising 0-60 in Under Five Seconds!”

The one I bit on said “Top Eight Religious Destinations in the World.”

I've visited some sacred sites in my time and many are really interesting, but I claim no authority. What particularly got me in this case was the claim that these were the top sacred sites “in the World.” Maybe some of these destinations belong on my bucket list?

I donated my eyeballs by clicking and my reward is below. I am pleased to report that The Daily Eight does not claim to rank the sacred. So this is the random order, not the ranking:

1. Mecca
2. Medina
3. St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City
4. Temple Mount, Jerusalem
5. Canterbury Cathedral
6. Ganges River
7. Mount Fuji
8. Fatima, Portugal

If you have read this far, through the list above, you perhaps understand why I was ready to do violence to my computer screen. How is that list wrong? I can't even count all the ways. But the major burr under my saddle is that The Daily Eight could not come up with even one top “religious destination” in the entire Western Hemisphere!

While leaving out half of the world is

my major beef, I wonder about the half that those who compiled this list purported to cover. I am an Indian born and raised in rural Oklahoma, so be aware of my limitations as I attempt a do-over of a list created by persons who are probably worldlier than I am.

This comment is not rooted in Islamophobia but in the reality of being a non-Muslim tourist. The list informs you that you will not be allowed in the

Perhaps I should visit some of these landmarks. And others might want to consider some Native alternatives.

sacred parts of Mecca and Medina. So either you must be a Muslim or a very accomplished liar before you can enjoy those destinations.

Christians would call me a pagan, so that may explain my thought that Stonehenge seems to me a lot more interesting than the Canterbury Cathedral. Both are in use for services today, but which is older? Which contains more mystery?

Then there's the Ganges River, which may be sacred to Hindus. But if I want to see a gloriously wide and once-beautiful river desecrated by human waste products, I have the Mississippi.


If I wanted to snub the hemisphere where I live, I would still replace Canterbury—sacred to a church that would not exist but for Henry VIII's libido—with Stonehenge.

As for the places where infidels (in the jargon of Muslim fundamentalists) are not welcome, I would replace one with the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul. It was a Christian cathedral and then the great mosque at the heart of the Caliphate. Now it is a museum and one of the finest examples of Byzantine architecture on the planet. I would replace the other with the temple complex at Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Originally built to honor a Hindu deity, it is now a Buddhist temple.

Leaving these differences aside, I would like to speak up for the neglected half of the world, where I live. While I doubt that I have the necessary breadth of knowledge, somebody ought to take on the task of rebuttal rather than admit that there is nothing both sacred and worth visiting on half of the planet.

If I were focused on architecture, I would think of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. or the Mormon Tabernacle in Utah. If I were focused on history, I would think of the Old North Church in

Boston, the Spanish missions in San Antonio (of which the Mission San Antonio de Valero, the Alamo, is neither the only nor the most interesting), or the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Or, as we once called it, “Bombingham.”

But I'm just an Oklahoma Indian, and I think about the sacred and the beautiful in a different manner that I will describe presently. I will dare to nominate an Indigenous Eight, knowing that I am sure to be blown away by ICTMN readers. But somebody has to start the discussion. <http://bit.ly/1zNcFdv> 

Don't Forget These Stories

2014 was a year for Indian Country to remember **BY GALE COUREY TOENSING**



Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn tackled major rules about tribal recognition.

Bottom Line: *This past year was filled with ups and downs across Turtle Island, with a handful of stories that made headlines and should not be forgotten moving into 2015. Here they are:*

INDIAN GAMING TOPS \$28.1BILLION

The Indian gaming industry across the country continued to grow in 2014 with a 2 percent increase in revenue to more than \$28.1 billion, according to Casino City's *Indian Gaming Industry Report*. Calendar year 2014 was the third straight year of growth since 2009, when Indian gaming revenue dropped by one percent—the only revenue de-

cline the industry has experienced since it was launched by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in 1988.

NO ALOHA: NATIVE HAWAIIANS JUST SAY NO

The Interior Department asked in a press release if the United States and the Native Hawaiian community should enter into a government-to-government relationship. Judging from the response of Native Hawaiians at a meeting with Interior officials in Honolulu June 23, the answer was a resounding “No.” With a rapidly growing nationalist or sovereignty movement in Hawaii,

an overwhelming majority of Native Hawaiians at the emotionally charged meeting expressed anger at and mistrust of the federal government. Many said that a government-to-government relationship with the U.S. would end their quest to restore their country to the status of a sovereign independent nation—the way it was before Hawaii became the 50th state.

RACISM IS ‘CENTRAL’ IN MAINE

A 41-page report released last summer under the auspices of the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission (MITSC) found that racism is at the core of problematic relations between the Pine Tree State and its tribes. The ostensible focus of the report—titled “Assessment of the Intergovernmental Saltwater Fisheries Conflict Between Passamaquoddy and the State of Maine”—is narrow. But its conclusions are major. The report documents that tribal-state conflict began surfacing as early as 1984 and remained unresolved, though evidence was included in a 1997 report by a Task Force on Tribal-State Relations called *At Loggerheads: The State of Maine and the Wabanaki*, which focused on the relationship between the Wabanaki nations and the state. “Racism is experienced by the Wabanaki, but generally is not recognized by the majority society,” the 1997 report noted. MITSC’s current report says that the issue of racism has not only persisted; it is “central” to the tribal-state conflict.

WASHBURN HEARS FRUSTRATION

Tempers flared at a July public discussion about proposed rules for tribal recognition that would allow certain third parties to veto a tribe’s ability to re-petition for federal status. The so-called “third-party veto” was the flash-point of a 3 ½-hour forum held at the Mashpee Wampanoag’s new government offices and community center

on Cape Cod, Massachusetts; Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Kevin K. Washburn conducted the meeting. A proposal to revise the federal recognition regulation gives third parties involved in litigation with tribes absolute power to prohibit them from re-petitioning under the new rules.

When Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation Chairman Dennis Jenkins spoke against the provision, many in the crowd of approximately 100 cheered, whooped and whistled. "This is not only morally reprehensible; it is also arbitrary and capricious and not in accordance with the laws of the United States," Jenkins said. "It is the worst kind of modern day genocide."

FREE SPEECH FIRESTORM

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) fired Steven Salaita, a newly tenured professor in the American Indian Studies program, after he tweeted comments

that criticized Israel and its actions in Gaza. The firing provoked a backlash of opposition from thousands of scholars over free speech and academic freedom and promises to boycott the university.

Salaita, a Palestinian American scholar in Native American studies, has done groundbreaking work in comparative analysis of the Native American and Palestinian peoples' experiences. He was scheduled to begin work at UIUC on August 16. But on August 1 the university's chancellor, Phyllis Wise, emailed him that he would not have the job after all. Wise said the board of trustees was unlikely to approve Salaita's appointment, so she

would not forward it to them.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY-INDIAN AFFAIRS SPEAKS TO ICTMN

On a September morning, the historic Peoples' Climate March took place as the United Nations General Assembly was opening its 69th regular session



Steven Salaita, an American Indian studies expert, suffered for his anti-Israel remarks.

with the first World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. One day later, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Kevin K. Washburn met with several staff members of Indian Country Today Media Network for a group interview. Present were publisher Ray Halbritter, opinions editor Ray Cook, West Coast editor Valerie Taliman, correspondent Simon Moya-Smith and staff reporter Gale Courey Toensing, who served as moderator.

'TEST US—YOU'LL SEE AN INDIAN UPRISING'

By one vote on November 21, the Senate failed to approve the controversial

Keystone XL pipeline. But after Republicans vowed to push it through at the next session, Rosebud Sioux President Cyril Scott told National Native News that Lakota warriors will camp out at the Keystone site to halt construction by any means necessary. "We drew a line in the sand," Scott said. "Test us—you'll see an Indian uprising. The last one was the Battle of the Little Big Horn and the United States government lost one of their great generals that day."

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA APPEALS NLRB PRO-UNION RULING

In an ongoing battle between tribal sovereignty and federal labor law, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is challenging a claim of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) that it has jurisdiction over the tribes' employees at Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort. The case could potentially affect all of Indian country.

On October 27 the NLRB ordered the tribe to rehire an em-

ployee who had been fired for union organizing, give her four years of back pay, and post notices in the workplace admitting it had violated federal labor law and reiterating employees' rights to unionize. The board claims jurisdiction over the employees because it asserts, among other issues, that the tribe is engaged in interstate commerce.

The tribe does not acknowledge the board's authority and refuses to abide by the order, Frank Cloutier, the tribe's spokesman and an enrolled member, told ICTMN. "The tribe has filed an appeal in the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals and that case is currently pending," Cloutier said.

<http://bit.ly/1zN6uWE> 

Cuomo And The Indians

The late governor was a collaborator BY GALE COUREY TOENSING

Bottom Line: *He was called “a giant in New York politics,” “an oratorical magician who electrified liberals,” “intelligent and compelling.” But to Indian Country, former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo was above all a steadfast ally.*

When former New York Governor Mario Cuomo died on New Year’s Day, at the age of 82, Indian Country lost a champion.

Cuomo was the Empire State’s 52nd governor, serving for three terms from 1983 through 1994. He was credited with simultaneously improving the business environment of New York and the quality of life for its citizens, despite a national recession at the time. He died just hours after his son Andrew was inaugurated into his second term as governor.

“He is in the heart and mind of every person who is here,” said Andrew Cuomo. “He is here and he is here, and his inspiration and his legacy and his experience is what has brought this state to this point. So let’s give him a round of applause.”

Since Cuomo’s death was announced, tributes to the former Democratic leader by politicians, dignitaries and admirers from around the country and the world have filled the media. Ray Halbritter, Oneida Nation representative and CEO of Nation Enterprises, parent company of Indian Country Today Media Network, was among the first to honor the former governor.

“Today, all New Yorkers mourn the

loss of a truly great man, Governor Mario Cuomo,” Halbritter said in a statement. “Governor Cuomo was a historic leader and true statesman. He understood that one of the most important roles of a public servant is to work to bring people together for the common good. He committed his life to mak-



Cuomo: Ally, advocate, partner

ing sure that when it comes to public policy, everyone—not just the powerful—were represented.”

For the Oneida Nation, Halbritter said, “Governor Cuomo was a steadfast ally. He was the leader who forged New York State’s first modern-day sovereignty agreement with our people. That agreement helped further cement our right to self-determination and self-sufficiency and put Central New York on a path toward sustainable shared prosperity.”

Como came to national attention in 1984 when he delivered the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention and talked about the lessons he learned as the son of a grocer in New

York. “I watched a small man with thick calluses on both his hands work 15 and 16 hours a day,” Cuomo told the crowd. “I saw him once literally bleed from the bottoms of his feet—a man who came here uneducated, alone, unable to speak the language—who taught me all I needed to know about faith and hard work by the

simple eloquence of his example.” The oration came to be known as Cuomo’s “Tale of Two Cities” speech; it was a direct challenge to then-President Ronald Reagan’s claim that all Americans were prospering as if living in the biblical “city on a hill.”

This motif helped inform his friendship with the Oneidas. That friendship was cemented in April 1993 when Cuomo signed a gaming compact allowing the Nation to open New York State’s first high-stakes gaming casino in more

than a century. The Turning Stone Resort Casino has since become the economic engine of Central New York, employing more than 4,000 people.

In 2013, the Oneida Nation kicked off its 20-year anniversary of the Turning Stone Resort and Casino with a recorded video featuring Cuomo and Halbritter.

“In the last 20 years, the world seems to me to be coming apart with dissension, with the inability to work together,” Cuomo said. “What the Oneida Nation has done is to give us a lesson in collaboration. It is the magic word—collaboration. ... What we hoped for 20 years ago has become a reality because of collaboration.” <http://bit.ly/1Aw9h5V>

Eye On Native Athletes

The faces—and moves—to watch for in 2015 **BY SAM LASKARIS**



Is the NFL the next step for Chickasaw quarterback Bryce Petty of Baylor?

Bottom Line: Numerous Native athletes and teams are looking to add to their accomplishments and highlight reels in 2015. Here are a few you can root for in the next 12 months.

BRYCE PETTY

Petty, a 23-year-old Chickasaw quarterback, led the Baylor Bears on New Year's Day against the Michigan Wolverines in the Goodyear Cotton Bowl in his final collegiate contest. Now the star quarterback will see if he has what it takes to make it in the National Football League. Sports analysts believe Petty will indeed be selected in the NFL draft. But there are varying predictions as to when he will be chosen. CBSsports.com has him pegged as a fourth-round pick, while WalterFootball.com believes he might drop down and be chosen as late as the sixth round.

JOHNNY POWLESS

Powless, a 21-year-old Mohawk Turtle,

hopes to add more lacrosse championships to his already impressive résumé. Powless, one of the world's most exciting young players, won three straight National Lacrosse League championships with the Rochester Knighthawks. In September, the Knighthawks traded him to the Vancouver Stealth. In 2014, Powless also captained his hometown Six Nations Arrows to a Canadian Junior A title in his final year of junior eligibility. And he can still suit up for the Six Nations Chiefs, with whom he won a Mann Cup—a Canadian senior men's title—in September.

BRONSON KOENIG

Koenig, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, is a sophomore playing basketball for the University of Wisconsin; he and his teammates enter 2015 sporting an impressive 11-1 record. The Badgers' lone setback thus far has been an 80-70 loss against Duke in early December. Koenig, a 6-foot-4 guard, has

been averaging 21 minutes of action and 4.8 point per game this season.

SELENA LASOTA

The 19-year-old Lasota, a member of Katzie First Nation in British Columbia, will be looking to make an immediate impact with the Northwestern University Wildcats women's lacrosse team. She is expected to play her first NCAA match with the Wildcats, a perennial national powerhouse, on February 5 in Los Angeles against the University of Southern California. Lasota, who is from Campbell River, B.C., is expected to be an offensive star with the Wildcats. She previously played for the Canadian women's under-19 squad. And though her high school did not have a lacrosse team, she was the school's athlete of the year as a senior, playing basketball and soccer.

KALI REIS

Reis, a 28-year-old middleweight boxer who lives in Providence, Rhode Island, hopes to capture some more prestigious hardware in 2015. Reis, who has Cherokee, Nipmuc and Seaconke Wampanoag ancestry, captured the women's International Boxing Association (IBA) middleweight belt during a bout in Bermuda in November. She sports a 7-3-1 professional record and will be required to defend her title this coming year. But she will also be seeking to add championship belts.

KOBI CROSSLEY

Crossley, a talented Chickasaw softball player, will start her collegiate career in her home state, having accepted a scholarship offer from the University of Science and Arts in Oklahoma. This past fall, Crossley led her Newcastle High School squad to an Oklahoma state championship. She will train with her new team this coming fall, and her first collegiate game is expected to be in February of 2016.



Michael Ferland (Metis), at left, put in 10 appearances with the Calgary Flames; he still awaits his first NHL goal.

TESHA BUCK

Buck, who grew up on Minnesota's Mdewakanton Sioux reservation, is now in her sophomore season with the Phoenix women's basketball team of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. During her first season, Buck was third in team scoring, averaging 10.4 points per outing. For her efforts she was selected as the Horizon League's Freshman of the Year. This year, she averages 10.8 points per contest for the 9-2 squad.

THE IROQUOIS NATIONALS

The Iroquois Nationals will be one of the medal contenders at the 2015 World Indoor Lacrosse Championships. The 16-team tournament, which runs September 18-26, marks the first time an international event will be held on Indigenous land. Round robin and

quarter-final matches will be staged at the Onondaga Nation Arena near Syracuse, New York. Buffalo's First Niagara Center will then host the semi-final and medal contests, as well as matches that determine the fifth- through eighth-place squads. The Nationals have won the silver medal in all three previous world tournaments, held every four years.

MICHAEL FERLAND

The 22-year-old Metis hopes to become a National Hockey League regular in 2015. Ferland has already had a taste of NHL life this season, appearing in 10 contests with the Calgary Flames. Though he did earn one assist, Ferland is still awaiting his first NHL goal (he scored two points in an exhibition game against the Colorado Avalanche). He suffered a concussion in his NHL

debut on October 31 against the Nashville Predators. Though he returned to action with Calgary, Ferland was later sent to the minors. He is now a member of the Flames' top affiliate, the Adirondack Flames of the American Hockey League.

LYLE THOMPSON

Lyle Thompson undoubtedly has the skills to shine as a pro in the MLL and NLL. But before turning pro in 2015, the Onondaga star will play his senior NCAA campaign with the University of Albany. This past year, Thompson shared the Tewaaraton Trophy, as the most

outstanding collegiate lacrosse player, with his brother Miles, who also starred for Albany and has since graduated. Thompson will be looking to improve upon his 2014 stats—an NCAA record of 128 points (51 goals, 77 assists) in 18 matches.

THE SCHIMMEL SISTERS

They no longer play for the same university (Louisville), but Shoni and Jude Schimmel, who grew up on Oregon's Umatilla Indian Reservation, still have plenty of supporters who will be cheering on their exploits in 2015. Shoni Schimmel is now in the pro ranks and gearing up for her second WNBA season with the Atlanta Dream. And her younger sister Jude is now a senior at Louisville, hoping to conclude her collegiate career on a high note. <http://bit.ly/1wwFAv4> 📸

Umonhon Nation School

Umonhon Nation Public School is nestled inside the small isolated community of Macy, NE, home of the Umonhon tribe since the 1800's. Umonhon Nation Public School, is located on tribal lands about 70 miles northwest of Omaha and 27 miles southeast of Sioux City, IA.

510 students in grades Pre K-12 attend the school. The school has a high mobility rate. Currently 100% of the students are Native American. The majority of staff lives outside the community and make the daily commute from several outer lying communities.

Applicants must qualify for a Nebraska Administrative and Supervisory Certificate with an endorsement in Superintendency. Minimum of three years school administrative experience required. **The start date for the position is July 1, 2015. Open from 12/1/2014 to 1/5/2015.**

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Letter of application, including reasons for interest in the position.
2. A signed copy of the application form.
3. A signed copy of the background check form. (Important: Submittal of this form is not required until such times as it is determined that the applicant is qualified for the position of Superintendent of Schools)
4. Resume
5. Letters of recommendation
6. Transcripts

Send Resumes to:

Stacie Hardy, Ed.S.
Interim Superintendent
Umonhon Nation Public School
Macy, NE
office: 402-837-5622

Psychologist Position

University Counseling Center at the University of Wyoming has an opening for a Psychologist.

University of Wyoming is an EEO/AA employer.

Background investigations are conducted on all prospective employees

Obtain more information and apply at:

<https://jobs.uwyo.edu/>

Application deadline is January 11, 2015 at 11:59 pm.



We are proud to offer up to three scholarships of up to \$5000 each for the 2015 academic year, in support of Native American accounting students and their goals towards higher education.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 15, 2015

For more information about the scholarship, and to download the application, please visit our website:

www.egghart.com/scholarship



General Counsel

The Association of Village Council Presidents, a non profit organization in Bethel, AK is currently recruiting for General Counsel Attorney.

- Competitive Salary
- Excellent Benefits
- 12 Paid Holidays and 18 days personal leave in the first year
- Employer paid Health Care for you
- Retirement Plan with employer contribution after 90 days of service

Summary: The General Counsel will act as the chief legal officer for the AVCP and will report directly to the AVCP President. This position will be accountable for managing both in-house and outside legal counsel; oversee the activities of the Tribal Justice Department; oversee the legal issues of the organization, including litigation; participate in legislative, regulatory and policy initiatives both statewide and nationally; provide advocacy representation and assistance to AVCP's member Tribes on issues such as tribal sovereignty, self-governance, natural resource law, including subsistence rights under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; provide advice on tribal justice matters, and protection of civil rights and liberties. This position interacts frequently with the Board of Directors, advising on corporate government matters.

Contact AVCP's Human Resources Department at 800-478-3521 for an application, to submit your resume or more information. Review our job description at www.avcp.org

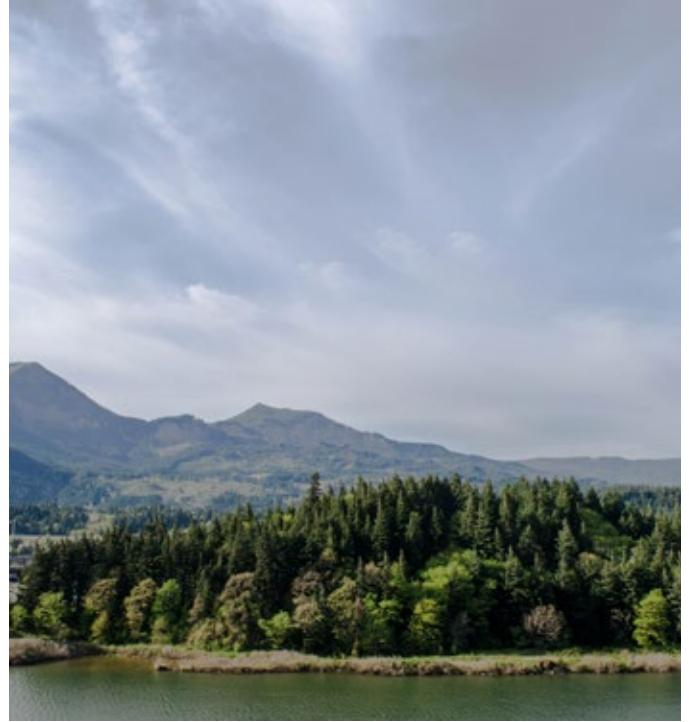
Per Public Law 93-638 (Indian Self Determination & Education Assistance Act) qualified Alaskan Natives/ American Indians are given preference but candidates from all backgrounds are welcome to apply.

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This Week From Indian Country Today
eNewsletter!





Demonstrators confronted Washington Redskins fans outside FedEx Field on December 28 over the continued use of the NFL team's name.



The Yakama Nation is suing the Army Corps of Engineers for not being consulted on cleaning up the Bradford Island Superfund site.



Kali Reis, of Cherokee, Nipmuc and Seaconke ancestry, recently won the women's International Boxing Association middleweight crown.



This silver, gold and diamond cuff is designed by Keri Ataumbi, co-winner of the 2015 Museum of Indian Arts and Culture Living Treasures Award.

GREGG DEAL; A. F. LITTY/FICKR CREATIVE COMMONS; KALI REIS; FACEBOOK/ATAUMBIMETALS

Headlines from the Web

JUDGE TOSSES CITY'S SUIT TO BLOCK FOND-DU-LAC EXPANSION

<http://bit.ly/171Q011>

WYANDOTTE NATION BUILDING NEW CULTURAL CENTER

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

COURT RULING COULD IMPACT TRIBE'S CASINO QUEST

<http://bit.ly/171SrR7>

REPEAL OF 'ALASKA EXEMPTION' GIVES TRIBES MORE POWER TO PROTECT NATIVE WOMEN

<http://wapo.st/13aOqaW>

SD NATIVE COMMUNITY MOURNS POLICE SHOOTING VICTIM

<http://cbsloc.al/1BkgqEh>

JUDGE DELAYS ACTION ON CONTEMPT MOTION FOLLOWING CHANGE IN TRIBAL LAW

<http://bit.ly/1wZ5XPv>

Upcoming Events

BETTER GOVERNANCE: BOARD/COUNCIL TRAINING JANUARY 13-14

Conducted by DCI America, this event will feature such topics as Robert's Rules of Order, "What Is Governance?," "Achieving Organizational Goals," "Leadership Roles," "Liability Issues," "Decision Making Strategies," "Problem Solving" and "Assessing Effectiveness." Subsidiary themes will include "The 'Business Judgment' Rule," "Decision After Group Discussion" and "Majority Decisions."

Location: Westmark Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska

CONFERENCE PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 15

This session of the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries & Museums will be geared toward planning the upcoming meeting of the International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums, which will take place on September 10-12. In addition to pre-conference tours and

workshops, as well as opening and closing ceremonies, there will be keynote speeches and consultations on conference images and graphic design.

Location: National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C.

ATNI TRIBAL LEADERS SUMMIT ON CLIMATE CHANGE JANUARY 15

This workshop is conducted by the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, in conjunction with the Northwest Climate Science Center. Discussion topics will include climate change impacts; regional, national and international policies on climate change; tribal needs and funding opportunities; strategies to promote and protect tribal sovereignty and tribal resources; and the development of a Northwestern tribal action plan.

Location: Doubletree Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon

LINKING GENERATIONS BY STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS JANUARY 20-22

Conducted by the Native American Fatherhood and Families Association (NAFFA), this facilitator training session provides in-

dividuals with skills to implement a 14-session program that assists fathers, mothers and families in enhancing their capacity to promote strong, healthy and positive relationships. Agenda topics include "Love and Intimacy," "Improving Relationships," "Communication and Interaction," "Choosing a Partner," "Self Worth" and "Threats to a Relationship."

Location: NAFFA Headquarters, Mesa, Arizona

WORKING IN INDIAN COUNTRY JANUARY 21

This seminar/workshop is designed to provide federal, state and local government officials and business leaders with the knowledge necessary to develop and conduct effective working relationships with tribes and organizations. Participants will acquire critical knowledge through interactive lectures, group discussions and video interviews of tribal representatives. The sponsors are the Association of American Indian Affairs and the American Indian Institute of the University of Oklahoma, in partnership with LDK Associates LLC.

Location: University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re your feature about the early end to wolf hunts in Wisconsin and Minnesota (December 5):

To me there is not another animal on earth that can compare to the wolf. From childhood I have always loved nature, and the wolf is a great part of that nature that our Creator made. I am mostly white, but my heart will

always be Native.

—Darrell K. Burdige
Hazel Green, Kentucky

Re Ruth Miller's reflection on the conflicted feelings associated with Christmas and the mass federal execution of 38 Dakota men on the following day in 1862 (December 24):

I would ask the author, how do you

and your family elders deal with the confusion of this season as you teach the young ones? I hope you and your family have found the solution, because I obviously haven't. I feel as if we are destined to live in the center of this impact of the clash of cultures and history.

—Daniel Mejia
Riverside, California



TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

MORE FUNDS TO COBELL SCHOLARSHIPS

With a transfer of nearly \$1 million, the Department of the Interior announced on December 30 that total contributions to the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund have surpassed \$5 million for 2014. The fund was authorized by the historic *Cobell* settlement and is funded in part by the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (Buy-Back Program). The Scholarship Fund will provide financial assistance through scholarships to American Indian and Alaska Native students wishing to pursue post-secondary education and training.

ARCTIC DRILLING COMPANY PLEADS GUILTY

The Shell Oil contractor whose ship ran aground while attempting to drill in the Chukchi Sea

in 2012 has pleaded guilty to eight environmental felonies, fined \$12.2 million and been put on probation for four years. In addition, the parent company of Noble Drilling LLC—which was charged in connection with incidents involving the drill ship *Noble Discoverer* and the drilling unit Kulluk that it was towing—must create an environmental management system for its mobile offshore drilling units, the Justice Department announced on December 9.

AYATOLLAH BLASTS. U.S. ON WOUNDED KNEE

On December 29—the 124th anniversary of the Wounded Knee Massacre—Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, took to Twitter to excoriate the U.S. government for its actions. Khamenei tweeted a picture of some of the more than 200

murdered Lakota victims and wrote, “Wherever westerners went, they destroyed local culture, history and language. #WoundedKnee.” Khamenei added the hashtag #NativeLivesMatter to an earlier tweet with the same message.

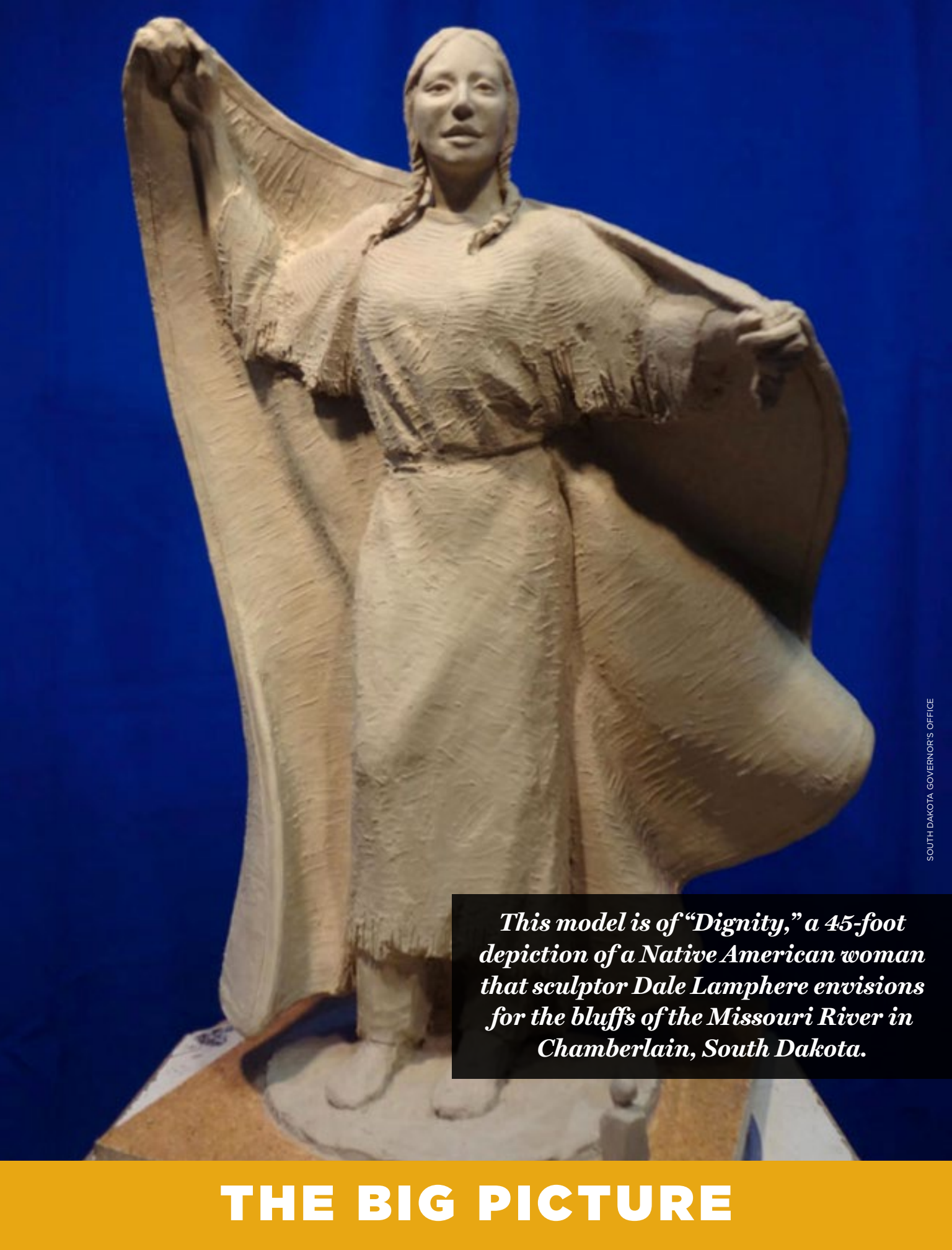
TRIBAL ENTERPRISE MANAGER SENTENCED

A former tribal enterprise office manager was sentenced by a U.S. district court on December 10 on charges of embezzlement. Robin Jean Bitseedy will serve 12 months and one day in federal prison and is ordered to pay \$141,820.47 in restitution to the Wichita and Affiliated, Caddo, and Delaware Tribes. Bitseedy, who worked for Wichita, Caddo, Delaware Enterprises, Inc. pleaded guilty to using her position to embezzle tribal funds from December 2007

through June 3, 2013. Bitseedy admitted to using the company’s Walmart credit card for personal use without permission and to writing checks to herself with forged signatures.

PROTEST OVER ‘REDSKINS’ NAME

Hundreds of protesters gathered and marched outside FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland on December 28 to protest the continued use of “Redskins” as the team name of the Washington, D.C. National Football League franchise. Many protesters wore t-shirts that proclaimed, “RETHINK.” Others gripped banners that read “Change The Name” and “Snyder Says ‘Never’ We Say ‘Now!’”—a reference to team owner Dan Snyder, who has said that he will “never” change the team’s name.



This model is of “Dignity,” a 45-foot depiction of a Native American woman that sculptor Dale Lamphere envisions for the bluffs of the Missouri River in Chamberlain, South Dakota.

THE BIG PICTURE