

Montana Tribes

Click on numbered list for contact info, links about tribe.

1. Blackfeet Tribal Business Council
2. Chippewa Cree Business Committee, Rocky Boy
3. Crow Tribal Council Gros Ventre & Assiniboine Tribes, Ft. Belnap
4. Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes, Ft. Peck
5. Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council

The Tribal Nations of Montana -- A Legislative Handbook -- Info prepared for Montana legislators in 1995, contains background on tribes, statistics on each, legal status, and a Q & A about general tribal federal-state legal relationships. 196K, so loads rather slowly.

Montana's Seven Tribal Colleges -- all of them, with links to official pages of most and summaries of joint educational efforts

Page Buttons



MONTANA BIA AGENCY OFFICES

BILLINGS AREA OFFICE

Bureau of Indian Affairs
316 N., 26th Street
Billings, MT 59101
P: 406/247-7343
F: 406/247-7976
Keith Beartusk
[back to index]

Blackfeet Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs

Box 880
Browning, MT 59417
P: 406/338-7544
F: 406/338-7761
Eric LaPointe
[back to index]

Fort Belknap Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 98
Harlem, MT 59526
P: 406/353-2901
F: 406/353-2886
Edith Adams
[back to index]

Fort Peck Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 637
Poplar, MT 59255
P: 406/768-5312
F: 406/768-3405
Dennis Whiteman
[back to index]

Northern Cheyenne Agency

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Crow Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Crow Agency, MT 59022
P: 406/638-2672
F: 406/638-2380
Duane Bird Bear
[back to index]

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Lame Deer, MT 59043
P: 406/477-8242
F: 406/477-6636
John White
[back to index]

**Rocky Boy's Agency
Representative**
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Box Elder, MT 59521
P: 406/395-4476
F: 406/395-4382
James Montes, Field
Representative
[back to index]

MONTANA INDIAN TRIBES

Earl Old Person, Chairman
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council
P.O. Box 850
Browning, MT 59417
P: 406/338-7276
F: 406/338-7530
(Blackfeet)
[back to index]

- **Black Feet Nation** Official website
- **Blackfeet** -- basic statistical info on tribe
- **Luxton Museum of the Plains Indians** (Alberta, CA), packaged a well-designed historical and cultural background unit, centered on the Blackfoot Confederacy. 20 50-minute modules, presented in 4 sections: Historical background; Spiritual Life; Daily Life; and Warrior-Hunter. Each module is followed by comprehension questions, and a set of off-line activities for each module
- Badger Two-Medicine Sacred Mountain site Oil & Gas Leasing in the Lewis & Clark National Forest, Badger two medicine site discussed briefly.

(Cite as: 65 FR 20775)

65 FR 20775-01, 2000 WL 383822 (F.R.)

PROPOSED RULES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

25 CFR Part 70

RIN 1076-AD98

Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood

Tuesday, April 18, 2000

***20775**

(Cite as: 65 FR 20775, *20775)

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This rule will establish documentation requirements and standards for filing, processing, and issuing a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood (CDIB) by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (Bureau). This rule will provide the policies and standards that will allow the Bureau to issue, amend, or invalidate CDIBs. The Bureau issues CDIBs to assist individuals in establishing their eligibility for programs and services based upon their status as American Indians and/or Alaska Natives.

DATES: Send your comments to reach us on or before July 17, 2000.

We plan to hold consultations on this proposed rule. The dates of the consultations are:

April 14, 2000, in Anchorage, Alaska;

May 10, 2000, in Rapid City, South Dakota; and

May 24, 2000, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for the addresses of the consultations. Each meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. (local time).

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to Karen Ketcher, Branch of Tribal Operations, Eastern Oklahoma Region, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 101 North 5th Street, Muskogee, OK 74401. You may also hand-deliver comments to us at Room 426, at the same address. For information about filing comments electronically, see the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section under "Electronic access and filing address." Comments will be available for inspection at this electronic address from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Central Standard time, Monday through Friday beginning approximately two weeks after publication of this proposed rule in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Ketcher, Tribal Operations, Eastern Oklahoma Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 918-687-2313. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the

2. Incomplete requests will be returned with a request for further information. No action will be taken until the request is complete.

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P


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 [Click to View]

Image 2 (8.5" X 6.25") Not available for Offline Print to STP or FAX

***20781**

(Cite as: 65 FR 20775, *20781)

Drafting Information

The primary authors of this document are Karen Ketcher, Tribal Operations Specialist, Eastern Oklahoma Region; Suzanne Chaney, Tribal Government Specialist, Southern Plains Region; Timothy DeAsis, Tribal Government Officer, Alaska Region; Donna Peterson, Tribal Government Specialist, Western Region; De Springer, Tribal Government Officer, Midwest Region; James Vallie, Tribal Government Specialist, Southern Pueblos Agency; Susan Work, Attorney, Tulsa Field Solicitor's Office; Dorson Zunie, Tribal Government Officer, Pacific Region; Duane **Bird Bear**, Chief, Division of Tribal Government Services, Central Office; R. Lee Fleming, Chief, Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, Central Office; Carolyn Newman, Tribal Enrollment Specialist, Central Office.

List of Subjects in 25 CFR Part 70

Alaska Natives, Indians, Indians-Federal certification.

For the reasons given in the preamble, the Bureau of Indian Affairs proposes to add a new Part 70 to Title 25, Chapter I, Subchapter F--Tribal Government, of the Code of Federal Regulations as set forth below.

PART 70--CERTIFICATE OF DEGREE OF INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE BLOOD

Subpart A--General Information

Sec.

70.1 What is the purpose of this part?

70.2 What terms do I need to know?

70.3 What is a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood?

70.4 Who issues, amends, invalidates a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood; or denies issuance of a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood?

70.5 Is the information and documentation I submit with my Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood request available to the public?

70.6 Information collection.

Subpart B--Determining Eligibility

70.10 How do I know if I am eligible to receive a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood?

70.11 How do I establish my eligibility to receive a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native

IV

Ads by Google

Text:

Federal Register: March 22, 2002 (Volume 67, Number 56)

Notices

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From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

DOCID:fr22mr02-84

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Submission of Paperwork Reduction Act Request to Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the Information Collection Request for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Form-4432, Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in the BIA and the Indian Health Service (IHS) has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The BIA is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

[Page 13359]

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 22, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent directly to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503. Send a copy of your comments to Duane Bird Bear, Chief, Division of Tribal Government Services, Office of Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street, NW., MS- 4660-MIB, Washington, DC 20240. *

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carolyn Newman, 202-208-2473.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A 60-day notice for public comments was published in the Federal Register on November 21, 2001 (66 FR 58514). No comments were received on the workload burden or the form itself (OMB Control No. 1076-0160) during this public comment period. Comments were received on January 28, 2002, but they concerned substantive requirements for descendants of members of federally recognized Indian tribes but who were not themselves enrolled members of the tribe. This issue will be addressed during rule revision.

(Cite as: 68 FR 7800)

68 FR 7800-01, 2003 WL 345104 (F.R.)

NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood Information Collection

Tuesday, February 18, 2003

***7800**

(Cite as: 68 FR 7800, *7800)

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed agency information collection activities; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is seeking comments from the public on an extension of an information collection from persons seeking proof of American Indian or Alaska Native blood, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The information collected under OMB Clearance Number 1076-0153 will be used to establish that the applicants meet requirements for official recognition as an American Indian or Alaska native for purposes of eligibility determination and participation in programs administered through the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

DATES: Submit comments on or before April 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be sent to Duane **Bird Bear**, Office of Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop: 320-SIB, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Carolyn Newman, Tribal Government Services Specialist/Enrollment, at 202-513-7641.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This collection was originally approved and assigned OMB Control No. 1076-0153 when it was submitted with a proposed rulemaking, 25 CFR part 70, which was published in the Federal Register on April 18, 2000 (66 FR 20775). The proposed rulemaking has not been finalized due to numerous requests from individuals and Indian tribal governments for extensions of time for comments. Several extensions of time for the submission of public comments were granted. The period for public comment ended on December 31, 2001. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, through the development of the proposed rule, is attempting to bring its decision-making procedures regarding the issuance of CDIB forms in line with the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. 553, as mandated by section 552, and as directed in the 1986 decision of the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA), Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, in Morgan Underwood, Sr. v. Deputy Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs (Operations), 93 I.D. 13, 11 IBIA 3 (IBIA, January 31, 1986). However, there is legal support for the information collection in that currently existing federal laws and regulations require some form of proof of Indian blood for various purposes, including ownership of lands held in trust by the United States for benefit of Indian landowners who are members of federally-recognized Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages), especially at those locations where the Indian tribe or Alaska native village has minimum Indian blood degree requirements for membership.

The public is advised that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB clearance number. For

example, this collection is listed by OMB as Control No. 1076-0153, and it expires 06/30/2003. The response is voluntary to obtain or retain a benefit.

We are requesting comments about the proposed collection to evaluate:

- (a) The accuracy of the burden hours, including the validity of the methodology used and assumptions made;
- (b) The necessity of the information for proper performance of the bureau functions, including its practical utility;
- (c) The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (d) Suggestions to reduce the burden including use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please submit your comments to the person listed in the ADDRESSES section. Please note that comments, names and addresses of commentators, are open for public review during (regular business hours). If you wish your name and address withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law.

Type of review: Renewal.

Title: Request for Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood.

Affected Entities: Individual Indian Applicants.

Size of Respondent Pool: 287,400.

Number of Annual Responses: 287,400.

Hours per response: 1.5.

Total Annual Hours: 433,500.

Dated: February 6, 2003.

Aurene M. Martin,

Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 03-3830 Filed 2-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-4J-P

68 FR 7800-01, 2003 WL 345104 (F.R.)

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Adobe Reader is required to view PDF images.



White Bison Speaks

Hoop Journey IV Visits the DC Area

Saturday, April 12 2003

The Lincoln Park Community Center in Rockville, Maryland, a neighborhood close to Washington, was the location for our next stop on this Journey. Over 150 people joined us to celebrate Wellbriety on a sunny day in the land of cherry blossoms. Every visit on a Hoop Journey is different because every community we stop at is different. The DC Indian community is one peopled by Natives who work in the many government agencies that serve Indian interests across the country. There were people from some of the local tribes also present at the Wellbriety Day gathering.

Don Coyhis shared the Gifts of the Sacred Hoop and highlights of the Journeys of the Wellbriety Movement. There was a video presentation of "Healing Native Women and Children"—the 2002 Journey West of the Mississippi. That's the way our Journey visits always start. The Gifts of the Hoop seem to manifest and wind like a spiritual thread thru the tapestry of an agenda or gathering. As the day progressed, it became clear that the gift that would touch us and help us to heal today was UNITY. We came together from all nations, genders, ages, and job descriptions to share a common desire. To focus on the Healing of our Men and Children.

"In the old Ways, and in the new Ways that are now coming again, Native men form a protective circle around the community. They can do this once they are connected in their own positive warrior's circle of men."

The DC Hoop Journey visit offered a half-day of ceremony, good eating, and panel discussions, followed by another half day of powwow, more ceremony and more feasting. The government agencies, people and tribes represented include:

- Duane Birdbear (Hidatsa/Mandan) BIA Division of Tribal Government
- Chet Eagleman, (Assiniboine), BIA Division of Human services
- Walter Lamar (Blackfeet/Wichita), BIA Office of Law Enforcement
- Dalton Henry (Choctaw) BIA Office of Indian Education Programs
- Amos Goodfox (Pawnee/Osage), DoEd Office of Indian Education
- Roger Iron Cloud (Oglala Sioux), Indian Headstart Program, ACF
- Kenneth Ryan (Assiniboine), ANA
- Daniel Echohawk (Pawnee/Otoe), IHS Div. of Health Professionals Support
- Frank Canizales (Miwak), IHS Behavioral Health Program
- Jim Cussen, Director, National Indian Urban Program
- Anselem Davis, (Navajo) National Science Foundation

Hoop Journey IV is about healing our men and children. But the way to healing Native men and children is to have the men connect as a men's circle. Then they can welcome the community into their own sacred strength and wellness. The yarn circle at the close of the powwow brought this home to everybody present in such a moving way.

The men formed a circle around the Sacred Hoop. The women and children then circled up on the outside of the men's circle. One man was given a ball of yellow yarn. Holding one end of the yarn, he threw the ball to another man. Then that man held onto the yarn and threw the ball to still another member of the circle. Round and around the ball of yarn flew until every man was connected in the spiderweb of yellow. They could all feel their connectedness in this



 (Cite as: 69 FR 25918) _____

69 FR 25918-01, 2004 WL 1041255 (F.R.)

NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Coyote Valley Reservation of California Liquor Control Ordinance

Monday, May 10, 2004

***25918**

 (Cite as: 69 FR 25918, *25918) _____

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes the Coyote Valley Reservation of California Liquor Ordinance. The ordinance regulates and controls the possession and sale of liquor on the Coyote Valley Reservation of California.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance is effective on May 10, 2004. ***25919**

 (Cite as: 69 FR 25918, *25919) _____

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Duane T. **Bird Bear**, Office of Tribal Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW., MS-320-SIB, Washington, DC 20240; Telephone: (202) 513-7641. AK

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Act of August 15, 1953, Public Law 83-277, 67 Stat. 586, 18 U.S.C. 1161, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in Rice v. Rehner, 463 U.S. 713 (1983), the Secretary of the Interior shall certify and publish in the Federal Register notice of adopted liquor ordinances for the purpose of regulating liquor transactions in Indian country. The Tribal Council of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians adopted a Tribal Liquor Ordinance on March 6, 2003. The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate and to control the possession and sale of liquor on the Coyote Valley Reservation of California.

This notice is published in accordance with the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

I certify that the Liquor Control Ordinance of the Coyote Band of Pomo Indians was duly adopted by the Coyote Valley Tribal Council by enactment of Council Resolution No. 03-06-03 on March 6, 2003. David W. Anderson,

Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs.

The Liquor Control Ordinance of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians reads as follows:

Ordinance No. 03-01-03; Liquor Control Ordinance of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians

Chapter I--Introduction

101. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Liquor Ordinance of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians."

**Tribal Leaders Directory
Spring/Summer 2005**



The printing date appears on the lower left-hand corner of the pages in section 2.

A copy of the Microsoft Access 2000 database file or the Adobe Acrobat file can be obtained by regular mail.

Fax your request to (202) 219-2327. Specify the file format you need and give your mailing address.



This directory is posted on the Department of the Interior website. Go to the internet address below and scroll to the middle of the page. The link is in the Tribal Governments section.

<http://library.doi.gov/internet/native.html>

**Tribal Leaders and
BIA Representatives**

Navajo Region

BIA Agency Office: **Regional Office**
Self-Gov. Compact:
Term of Office - Expiration Date:
Elouise Chicharello, Regional Director
Navajo Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 1060
Gallup, NM 87305
Phone No: (505) 863-8314 Fax No: (505) 863-8324
e-mail:

BIA Agency Office: **Chinle Agency**
Self-Gov. Compact:
Term of Office - Expiration Date:
Elouise Chicharello, Regional Director
Chinle Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 7H
Chinle, AZ 86503
Phone No: (505) 863-8314 Fax No: (505) 863-8324
e-mail:

BIA Agency Office: **Eastern Navajo Agency**
Self-Gov. Compact:
Term of Office - Expiration Date:
Duane Bird Bear, Superintendent
Eastern Navajo Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 328
Crownpoint, NM 87313
Phone No: (505) 786-6032 Fax No: (505) 786-6115
e-mail:

BIA Agency Office: **Fort Defiance Agency**
Self-Gov. Compact:
Term of Office - Expiration Date:
Elouise Chicharello, Regional Director
Fort Defiance Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 619
Fort Defiance, AZ 86504
Phone No: (505) 863-8314 Fax No: (505) 863-8324
e-mail:

BIA Agency Office: **Shiprock Agency**
Self-Gov. Compact:
Term of Office - Expiration Date:
Elouise Chicharello, Regional Director
Shiprock Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 3538
Shiprock, NM 87420-3538
Phone No: (505) 863-8314 Fax No: (505) 863-8324
e-mail:

BIA Agency Office: **Western Navajo Agency**
Self-Gov. Compact:
Term of Office - Expiration Date:
Elouise Chicharello, Regional Director
Western Navajo Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 127
Tuba City, AZ 86045
Phone No: (505) 863-8314 Fax No: (505) 863-8324
e-mail:

This is the html version of the file <http://www.itmatrustfunds.org/Sub%20Pages/ListeningConferences/Navajo/05June9-10%20.NAVAJO%20LC%20SUMARY%20REPORT.pdf>.
Google automatically generates html versions of documents as we crawl the web.

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INTERTRIBAL MONITORING ASSOCIATION on Indian Trust Funds

2800 San Mateo Blvd NE- Suite 105, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Phone: 505/247-1447 Fax: 505/247-1449 e-mail: itma@itmatrustfunds.org**ITMA LISTENING CONFERENCE****JUNE 9 – 10, 2005****Duane Bird Bear**

Agency Superintendent, BIA in Crownpoint, NM 505-786-6032

Mr. **Bird Bear** introduced himself and said it was a pleasure to be here. He said that there are many probate problems, and that probate means ownership. BIA is working on reducing whereabouts unknown and the special deposits. Currently, he is involved in the PNM Mine closure that is to take place by 2008. Mr. **Bird Bear** stated that he is going to meet with the State of New Mexico, the Navajo Nation and the mining company. There is ongoing work with rights of ways throughout the Navajo Nation. Mr. **Bird Bear** also informed the attendees that if they knew of any BIA employee that was not doing their job or know someone working with an individual, they need to let him know, **Bird Bear** stated that he wants to make everything right for the Navajo people.

This is the html version of the file <http://www.navajo.org/images/pdf%20releases/KFrancisPR/jun06/Mariano%20Lake%20Celebrates%20Signing%20of%20Treaty%20of%201868.pdf>.
 Google automatically generates html versions of documents as we crawl the web.

Page 1

Contact: Karen Francis, Public Information Officer
 Navajo Nation Council Office of

karenfranci
[www.navajonati](http://www.navajonation.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 DATE: Monday, June 19, 2006

MARIANO LAKE CELEBRATES SIGNING OF TREATY OF 1868

On June 16, 2006, hundreds of people joined the community of Mariano Lake as it celebrated the signing of the Treaty of 1868 which ended the conflict between the Navajo people and the United States government and returned the Navajo people back to their sacred homeland from Bosque Redondo.

In what was described as an historic occasion, a proclamation issued by Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Navajo Agency Supervisor **Duane Birdbear** to the Mariano Lake community reaffirming the importance of the Treaty of 1868 was delivered via "Indian Pony Express" from Crownpoint, New Mexico. The riders, led by Council delegate Young Jeff Tom, were cheered on as they arrived at the Chapter house where Tom delivered the proclamation to Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan to read aloud to the community.

The proclamation acknowledges that the "Navajo Nation exercises its undiminished

sovereign authority on behalf of the Nation and the Nation's members in a prudent manner, takes all necessary action to protect the health and safety of its members and visitors, and has worked in a cooperative manner with the surrounding government" that the "Navajo Nation and Mariano Lake Chapter have sent their sons and daughters to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States in times of conflict, many of whom have served honorably and valiantly in service to their country."

The Pony Express team also included Alvin Smith, Benny Enrico, Ray Cleveland, Harrison Mariano and Angela Yazzie, a student-athlete at Thoreau High School.

During earlier remarks, the speaker noted that before the signing of the Treaty of 1868 the Navajo people had a system of governance guided by fundamental laws and that the Navajo Nation Council attempted to preserve those laws through legislation, specifically with the enactment of the Dine Fundamental Law in 2002.

Mistress of ceremony Bess Tsosie emphasized the importance of education and preserving cultural teachings in commemorating the Treaty of 1868. She noted that sacred songs and ceremonies were performed for the Navajo people to return home and that the signing of the Treaty with education as one of the bargaining items.

Page 2

"Our leaders asked for education for you," Tsosie said. "I want everybody to remember that and put our children in school everyday."

Tsosie further remarked that children can learn English at school and learn Navajo at home. She said that teaching the Navajo language is the key to preserving the Navajo way of life.

"The Treaty of 1868 celebration reminds the federal government of the obligation that we have to the Navajo people," she said. "It also reminds the Diné that we will always protect our lands and our culture, provided we practice it daily and teach it to our children."

Many people raised their hands when asked by President Joe Shirley if they had read the Treaty of 1868. To those who hadn't, he encouraged them to look it up on the Internet.

and become aware of its contents.

The acknowledgment of Treaty Day began three years ago with Bronco Martinez and other community members organizing the first celebration. Martinez is now Chapter President.

In holding the event, Chapter Secretary Tsosie said that they were trying to promote participation in their local government.

“Most chapters conduct only serious businesses,” Tsosie said. “We are trying to get people, especially our elders, to come to the Chapter to enjoy each other's company basically make the people enjoy themselves. This is to serve as a motivation to have people come to chapter meetings and plan other activities.”

In addition to hearing from various speakers, the celebration also included a health walk/run, a traditional song and dance, live country and rock music, exhibits, concerts and Chi'zhi Rodeo.

###

Attached photo: The Indian Pony Express arrives.

Navajos celebrate the Treaty of 1868 and their sovereignty.

Source: Indian Country Today (Oneida, NY)

Publication Date: 28-JUN-06

Byline: Brenda Norrell

Jun. 28--MARIANO LAKE, N.M. -- Celebrating the signing of the Treaty of 1868 and the sovereignty that led has led to their strength and sense of self, Navajos in Phoenix were linked with Navajos in Mariano Lake with unique celebrations of honor.

In solemn reverence, and with solid fun, from the city of Phoenix to the Navajo homeland, events included a comedian, baby contest, rodeo, rock music and one-of-a-kind Pony Express.

Navajos remembered their ancestors who signed the Treaty on June 1, 1868, in the prison camp of Bosque Redondo (Fort Sumner), after being forced on foot on the cruel Long Walk. It was the treaty that brought those who survived home again to Navajoland.

"The treaty was signed by our great-great-great-grandfathers. With the little education they had, we were able to come back to our homelands," said Freddie Johnson, Navajo from Rock Point, Ariz., and Navajo language instructor at Phoenix Indian Center.

Johnson and Loren Tapahe, Navajo publisher of "Arizona Native Scene," teamed up to host a series of events held on the 138th anniversary of the signing of the treaty. Peterson Zah, former Navajo Nation president and current assistant to the president of Arizona State University, spoke about the evolution of the Navajo Nation government.

At the Phoenix Indian Center, Navajo comedian, singer and cartoonist Vincent Craig, known as "Mutton Man," was a hit with his Navajo reservation humor during a mini-concert in support for sovereignty. A baby contest was also held during the treaty celebrations June 1 --3.

"It was to recognize the traditions of the Indian people and their timeless, beauty and culture," Johnson said.

Remembering the Treaty of 1868, Johnson said, "The United States saw us as a sovereign nation that is our sovereignty.

"We have our sovereignty and it is based on our treaty and our K'e'."

Johnson said the Navajos' K'e' is the clanship and kinship system, the matrilineal system which provides not just the basis of introductions, but also provides each Navajo's identity in relation to their ancestors.

"When we introduce ourselves, we are introducing our grandparents."

The K'e' is the basis of social order for Navajos and is combined with the treaty as the foundation of sovereignty, he said.

The purpose, he said, "is to be aware of your self-identity." Navajos tell their children that they did not come into this world with everything laid out for them. The treaty and the suffering of the Navajo grandparents remind Navajos of this principle.

"You have to work for things in order to acquire them, these will not be handed to you," Johnson said.

Tapahe said, "The Celebrate Sovereignty Day was to encourage all American Indians to celebrate their individual and tribal sovereignty."

Tapahe said since the Navajo Nation usually celebrates Sovereignty Day by having a day off and going to the popular Native American Appreciation Day in Gallup, organizers thought as urban Navajos they could celebrate just as well in the concrete city.

travel home frequently to visit relatives and to have traditional ceremonies," Tapahe said.

"This celebration is the first and we hope to make it an annual event," Johnson said. "Next year we will have a larger venue and we are seeking volunteers."

In Mariano Lake, Navajo dignitaries, including Navajo Speaker Lawrence Morgan and Navajo President Joe Shirley Jr., joined community members for a health walk/run, a traditional song and dance, live country and rock music, exhibits, concessions and Chi'zhi Rodeo.

Karen Francis, spokesman for the Navajo Council Speaker's Office, said it was a historic occasion.

"On June 16, 2006, hundreds of people joined the community of Mariano Lake as it celebrated the signing of the Treaty of 1868 which ended the conflict between the Navajo people and the United States government and returned the Navajo people back to their sacred homeland from Bosque Redondo," Francis said.

Speaking to the gathering, Mariano Lake Chapter Secretary Bess Tsosie emphasized the importance of education and preserving cultural teachings while commemorating the Treaty of 1868. She said sacred songs and ceremonies were performed for the Navajo people to return home which resulted in the signing of the treaty with education as one of the bargaining items.

"Our leaders asked for education for you," Tsosie said. "I want everybody to remember that and put our children in school every day."

Pointing out that Navajo children learn English at school, she encouraged parents to share the Navajo language at home. Teaching the Navajo language is the key to preserving the Navajo way of life, she said.

"The Treaty of 1868 celebration reminds the federal government of the obligation they have to the Navajo people," Tsosie said.

"It also reminds the Dine' that we will always have our lands and our culture, provided we practice it daily and teach it to our children."

BIA Eastern Navajo Agency Supervisor Duane Birdbear issued a proclamation to the Mariano Lake community which reaffirmed the importance of the Treaty of 1868.

The proclamation was delivered via "Indian Pony Express" from Crownpoint, N.M. The riders, led by Mariano Lake Council delegate Young Jeff Tom, were cheered on as they arrived at the chapter house where Tom delivered the proclamation to Morgan to read aloud to the community.

Morgan said that before the signing of the Treaty of 1868, the Navajo people had a system of governance guided by fundamental laws and that the Navajo Nation Council attempted to preserve those laws through legislation, specifically with the enactment of the Dine' Fundamental Law in 2002.

Shirley asked those gathered if they had read the Treaty of 1868. After many raised their hands, Shirley encouraged them to look it up on the Internet and become aware of its contents.

The proclamation issued by Birdbear acknowledged that the "Navajo Nation exercises its undiminished sovereign authority on behalf of the Nation and the Nation's members in a prudent manner, takes all necessary action to protect the health and safety of its members and visitors, and has worked in a cooperative manner with the surrounding government."

Further, it states that the Navajo Nation and Mariano Lake Chapter have sent their sons and daughters to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces in times of conflict and they have served honorably and valiantly in service to their country.

Annual Treaty Day celebrations began three years ago when Bronco Martinez, now chapter president, and others began organizing events. Tsosie said that they hope to promote participation in their local government.

"Most of these events are business," Tsosie said. "We are trying to get our people to participate."

our elders, to come to the chapter to enjoy each other's company -- to basically make the people enjoy themselves. This is to serve as a motivation to have the people come to chapter meetings and plan other activities."

Joining Tom on the Pony Express were Alvin Smith, Benny Enrico, Ray Cleveland, Harrison Mariano and Angela Yazzie, a student athlete at Thoreau High School.

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EASTERN NAVAJO AGENCY ROADS COMMITTEE

Crownpoint NDOT — Crownpoint NM

April 14, 2007

10:00 A.M.

AGENDA & MEETING MINUTES

- I. Meeting called to order Chairman
Roll Call
Present: Raphael Martin, Frank Chee Willeto Jr., Mark Begay, Tony Padilla
Introduction of Guest: Tim DeAssis, Dine Benally, Bobby Pablo, Richard Bowman, Catherine Gonzales(Crownpoint Community Member)

- II. Invocation was done by Tony Padilla, ENARC Member
At this time ENARC members had a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Duane Birdbear, former Eastern Agency Superintendent who passed away in April.

- III. Announcements
April 20-21, 2008 Road Maintenance Manual Work Session,
Albuquerque, New Mexico – Dave Jones

- IV. Acceptance of Agenda
Motion by Tony Padilla
Seconded by Mark Begay
Vote: 3-0-1

- V. Acceptance of Minutes
February 11, 2008 Meeting Minutes, Thoreau Chapter House
Meeting minutes were read and accepted by committee.
Motion by Mark Begay
Seconded by Tony Padilla
Vote: 3-0-1

- VI. Status of Reports
 - 1) Eastern Agency Superintendent Tim De'Assis
Mr. DeAssis spoke of the red tape and politics and how he was assigned to be here in Eastern Agency temporarily. He indicated he does not know how long he will be in Eastern Agency. He elaborated on the MOA with Navajo DOT and BIA and how there needs to be an exchange of assistance and resources through partnering. He also discussed the fuel excise tax dollars and how the nation deliberate and pitches on how the nation spends dollars on gas. He shared some information regarding A76, which has been pending now for four years. During the first phase of this study was not run because the Navajo Nation contacted the BIA of contracting the BIA Maintenance program so therefore they didn't follow through on the study.
 - 2) BIA-Eastern BIA Highway Engineer Dine Benally
Dine Benally, see reports of all activities with the BIA as far as maintenance schedules and project timeline of where projects are at. He also strongly recommended to ARC when TCDC comes to our agency that ARC needs to be ready as to what to present to TCDC as in the past with other agencies, they were not ready for TCDC and didn't have the important and necessary questions to ask TCDC. Such as the Archaeological clearances requesting that we need to identify to TCDC that we need to have our own set policies regarding Arch clearances.