



POTAWATOMI TRAVELING TIMES

Volume 25, Issue 2 • abtē nib gizes Half Summer Moon • July 15, 2019

Third Annual Forest County Festival a Success



by Winda Collins

July 5-7, 2019, was a busy weekend for many across the country, and it was no different here in our little neck of the northwoods. This was especially true for Crandon International Raceway where the third annual Forest County Festival took place. With three days of carnival rides, kid's games and activities, music, bus races, midway food and more, the track was just one more event to put on your weekend must-do list. The weather certainly cooperated, and seeing the smiles and hearing the excited squeals were all you needed to know that, once again, those who came to the festival had fun!

On hand Saturday, July 6, in an area just off the midway, were 10 of Forest County's municipalities. The reason is fairly simple but takes a bit of explaining. For the third year in a row – and coinciding with the festival – the Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) have generously

invited county communities to apply for a \$10,000 grant. Applicants are required to draft a board resolution stating how the funds are to be used and deliver it by the deadline. Although the county has 14 municipalities, only 10 are selected to receive grants. Those chosen must make a presentation to members of FCP Executive Council before funds are disbursed. Presentations must showcase the intended project and the positive impact it will have on the community.

Each project is a worthy one, and each municipality is very appreciative of the tribe's generosity and support! Below is the list of municipalities, projects, and those on hand to accept grants from FCP Chairman Ned Daniels Jr., and FCP Treasurer Joseph Daniels Sr.

(1) **Towns of Alvin/Nelma** - Improve Alvin's Lakeview Cemetery grounds to be handicap-accessible

Florence Kostka, Chair
Della Rosenow, Clerk
Sue Landerman, Grants Coordinator

(2) **Town of Argonne** - Emergency management generator for town hall

Randy Spencer, Chairman (with Zelia and Keaston)

Amy Collins, Clerk

(3) **Town of Armstrong Creek** - Make upgrades to community center

Howard Young, Chairman
Don Chitko, Board Member
Scott Goode, Board Member

(4) **City of Crandon** - Build portable concession stand for Little League

Cindy Bradley, Clerk/Treasurer
Erin Mayer

(5) **Town of Crandon** - Purchase trash compactor plus slab and wiring

Rick Huber, Chairman
Larry Schunk, Supervisor
Ray Statezny, Supervisor

Homer Rosa, previous Chairman (33 years)

(6) **Town of Hiles** - Purchase wheelchair swing and handicap-accessible dock

Cathy Votis, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Brian Bukovic, Supervisor

Karl Tauer, Chairman

(7) **Town of Laona** - Make upgrades to Centennial Park

Al Murray, Supervisor

(8) **Town of Lincoln**

Three-phase plan for pavilion includes removing clay soil and adding gravel

Lynne Black, Chair

Kathy Gibbs, Plan Commission

(9) **Town of Nashville** - Update playground

Wesley Ginter, Supervisor

(10) **Town of Popple River**

Restore original town hall

Jerry Gilligan, Chair

Pat Gilligan, Clerk



Carnival photos by Krystal Statezny

(1) **Towns of Alvin/Nelma**

(2) **Town of Argonne**

Remaining photos appear on pg. 3

(3) **Town Armstrong Creek**

(4) **City of Crandon**

(5) **Town of Crandon**

(6) **Town of Hiles**

(7) **Town of Laona**

(8) **Town of Lincoln**

(9) **Town of Nashville**

(10) **Town of Popple River**

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Brianna Paige Soman “Wesjewen” “Sparkles on a River”

Brianna Paige Soman “Wesjewen” “Sparkles on a River”, 22, of Wabeno, Wis., passed away Thursday, June 27, 2019, at her home. Brianna was born June 12, 1997, in Marshfield, Wis., the daughter of Chief Soman and Lisa Weso.

Surviving are Brianna’s parents, sisters: Florence Gomez, Wabeno; Arena Soman, Wabeno; brothers: Richard Gomez, Crandon; Paul Davis, Wabeno; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held on June 30 at the FCP Cultural Center. Services were held July 1 at Lake Lucerne Gospel Chapel with Don Dewing officiating. Burial followed at the Potawatomi Tribal Cemetery, Blackwell.

Weber-Hill Funeral Home assisted the family with the arrangements.



What We Gain from Education

submitted by Autry Johnson, FCP Tribal Member

It seems throughout the past decade – mainly my entire lifetime – that our community has forgotten the importance of education. No one can blame this thought due to white imperialism throughout the times of colonialism. Today, colonialism, in some ways, has ended; however, the effects that still live on in our community tears us apart.

In 1860, the United States government passed the boarding school act mandating all Native youth to attend school. This did not go how it was intended to. During this time, any institute in the U.S. was not open for people of color: Native Americans, African Americans, Orientals, etc. The only people that the U.S. was for was white people.

In a matter of fact, when the Declaration of Independence was written, the phrase: “All Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights,” was meant for rich white men who owned property. Throughout history, this phrase has become more inclusive as it was intended. However, how does this relate to back to the topic of education?

When Native American youth were taken from their tribes and forced into boarding schools, the idea of education applied only to white standards; thus, the term “white assimilation” had been used to erase the identity of Native American culture and identity. This idea still affects Native communities today.

When many Native youth in reservations today think of education, it does not imply the actual definition of education. It is usually associated to the white standard. English derives from many languages, especially Latin. So, the term “education” comes from the words: Educare, Educere, and Educatum. These terms mean to lead forth, to draw out,

to bring up, and to mold or develop. Therefore, in educational institutes such as universities, these terms are universal to everyone. It does not have any implicit standards to a culture’s standard of education today.

Universities today are embracing multiculturalism and diversity more than ever. So, why do so many youth reject the idea of education? Having an education does not mean you forget your culture, heritage, or origins. Embracing academia only betters your community rather than changing it to another culture’s “standard” of living.

An educated Native American is associated as dangerous to some. Understanding the history of colonialism and white imperialism makes us see through the façade that minorities do not have a disadvantage in today’s society. Remember, the institution of America was built to favor white people. White privilege still embeds itself near our community outside of the Forest County Potawatomi reservation. The only way to dismantle this frustrating way of life is to only educate not only ourselves but everyone within and without the community.

People who do not know our history and our way of life do not understand the suffrage we have gone through for decades. Today, many youth from our tribe do not understand how our tribe operates, how gaming revenue works, and most importantly, our rights as a sovereign nation. The generation that pushed for the benefits we receive today is getting older every day. So, that leaves the question: Who is for the future of our tribe, and how can we embrace education to maintain our ways of life that benefit us all? Hopefully, thanks to our education department, we are going forward to embrace education.

CORRECTION

In the article “Biodigester Tour” as it appeared in the July 1, 2019 issue, PTT failed to give Val Niehaus proper credit for her photos. PTT apologizes for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

••• NOTICE •••

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS SEPT. 9, 2019.
REGISTRATION
FOR THE 2019-20 GTE GANES SCHOOL YEAR IS TAKING PLACE NOW!
CONTACT PEGGY, MIKE OR JOY AT (715) 478-7347 FOR AN APPLICATION.

Message From FCP Veterans Post 1

Meetings take place on the first Monday of the month at 5 p.m. We consider it an honor and a privilege to be of service to the Potawatomi community. Membership in FCP Veterans Post 1 is open to all veterans and spouses of Potawatomi tribal members. Please join us!

Every Member
IS~
SACRED

Report Opioid Abuse
fcpchelp.com

Deadline for the August 1, 2019 issue of the
Traveling Times is Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

POTAWATOMI TRAVELING TIMES

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Scholarship Recipients Thank Forest County Potawatomi Community

submitted by Nicolet Artea Technical College

Kaylee McGesick.

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Forest County Potawatomi Community Scholarship, and I am truly grateful for this opportunity and financial support in my journey in the medical field. As a student in the nursing program, I will incur additional costs that are directly related to the nursing program. Receiving this scholarship will relieve some of the financial burdens that I will encounter throughout my college experience.

My interest in the medical field emerged at an early age and has continued to grow. Healthcare has always been an interest of mine. During my junior year of high school, I received my Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license. Being employed as a CNA reaffirmed my desire of becoming a registered nurse. I am passionate about helping others and trying to improve their quality of life. Becoming a registered nurse would allow me to fulfill that passion.

I believe that my chosen profession will enable me to fulfill my desire to help others. More importantly, it will provide an opportunity to serve and contribute to the health and well-being of members of my local community. Upon completion of my nursing degree, I would like to work in my hometown and serve my local community. I am confident that I would be instrumental in improving my local community's quality of life by ensuring that there is access to and a high standard of care being provided.

Currently, my short-term goals include successfully completing Nicolet College's nursing program with an associate's degree. My long-term goals include receiving my bachelor of science in nursing and serving my local community by contributing to their health and well-being. Nicolet College's nursing program and instructors offer an excellent education and learning experience that

will help me achieve my educational and career goals.

Receiving this scholarship will help provide the opportunity for me to be fully committed and engaged as I continue my college education. Thank you for this opportunity. I feel honored and humbled to be a recipient of the A Day for Nicolet Scholarship.

.....

Maia Kegley

I am a proud recipient of the Forest County Potawatomi Community Scholarship. I cannot fully put into words how thankful I am; it truly means the world to my family and me. I currently reside in Crandon with my husband and two children. I have one biological son and one son who I have the pleasure of fostering through Forest County Potawatomi Indian Child Welfare. Fostering sparked my passion to work in the human services field.

I am an enrolled Sokaogon Chippewa tribal member located in Mole Lake and have family ties into the Forest County Potawatomi tribe. It has always been a goal of mine to contribute to tribal communities and become a positive role model for younger members. Since December 2018, I have been honored to serve as the health board secretary for the Sokaogon Chippewa Community. It is important to me that, as a young tribal member, I am able to show our elders that the younger generation is ready to serve our community.

I decided to attend Nicolet College to obtain my associates of arts degree, which I will use towards my social work degree. I plan to attend Northern Michigan University, where they offer the bachelor's and master's degrees in my desired major. I came across the Native American Community Services degree, which offers credits in both Native American studies and social work at NMU. Nicolet was my first choice

when I decided I wanted to begin my college education; I thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere that they provide. It feels like home and has smaller class sizes, which I am used to. I grew up in Elcho where my graduating class had a total of 25 students.

I decided to take a full course load this spring semester while I juggled home life and working two jobs. It was often challenging, but it was all the more rewarding when I was able to complete my first semester. I've proven to myself that I am capable of being my best self and my family deserves nothing less.

I want to thank you again for this scholarship. I will walk with my head held high knowing that I was bestowed this opportunity.

.....

Elisabeth Fleming

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the Forest County Potawatomi Community Scholarship. As one of this year's recipients, I am grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. I rely on financial aid, grants and student loans to help finance my education. Receiving this scholarship will help reduce my financial burdens and provide assistance for me as I continue pursuing my education.

When I first started attending Nicolet Area Technical College, I felt right at home. I have two girls and two boys to support so this award is very much appreciated. I plan to take this opportunity to work within my community on our reservation to help with our drug and alcohol epidemic. My heart was finally committed one day when my eight-year-old son came home after walking back from his friend's house. He passed me a bag containing illegal substances and stated, "Mommy I don't want anyone to step on this and get hurt." At that point my mind was made up and I knew that this was not a choice but a decision that was vital to my community.

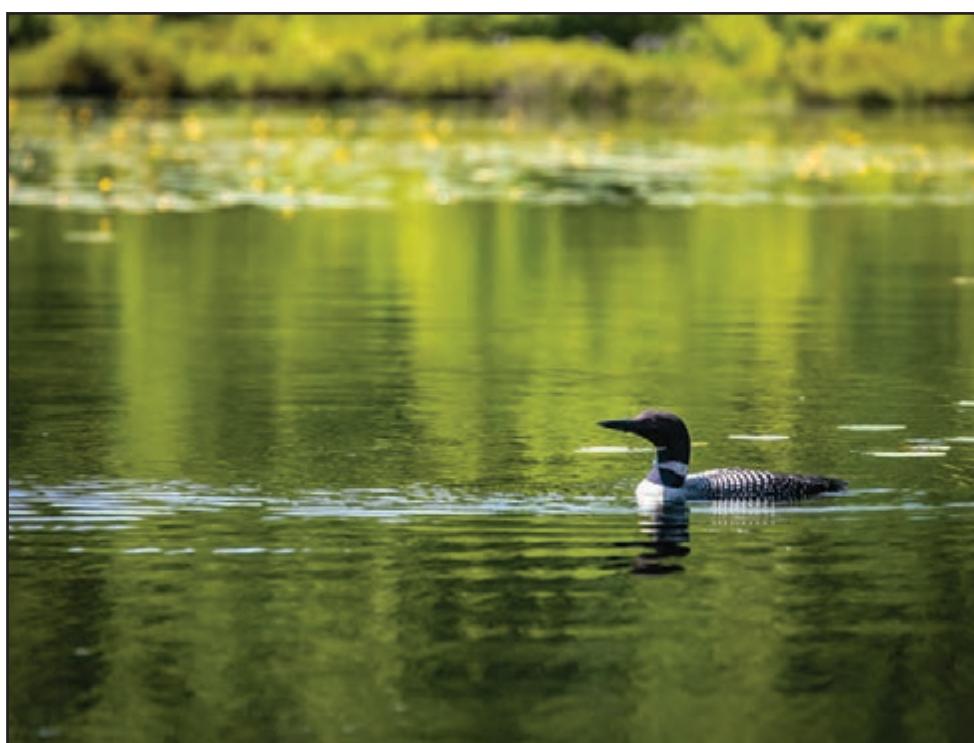
Currently, I am pursuing a liberal arts major at Nicolet College and will be transferring to Northern Michigan upon graduation. The plan is to pursue a career in AODA (alcohol and other drug abuse) Psychology upon graduating from Northern Michigan. After graduation, I plan to work for one of our tribe's programs that helps manage and prevent any problems that may lead to any alcohol or drug abuse. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to that goal.

Once again, thank you for supporting the students of Nicolet College. Your generosity truly makes a difference.

FCP Tribal Member Awarded Scholarship



FCP community member Darlaina Boyd received a scholarship from Crandon Masonic Lodge 287. FCP elder Louie Spaude was on hand to present the award. Congratulations, Darlaina!



Men's Health: A Day of Fishing

by Val Niehaus

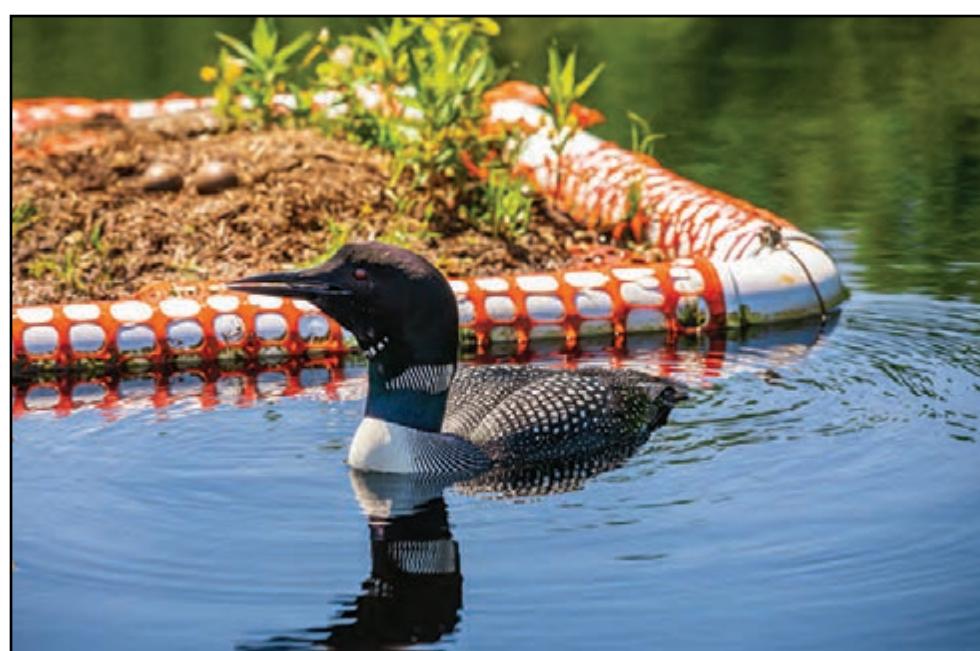
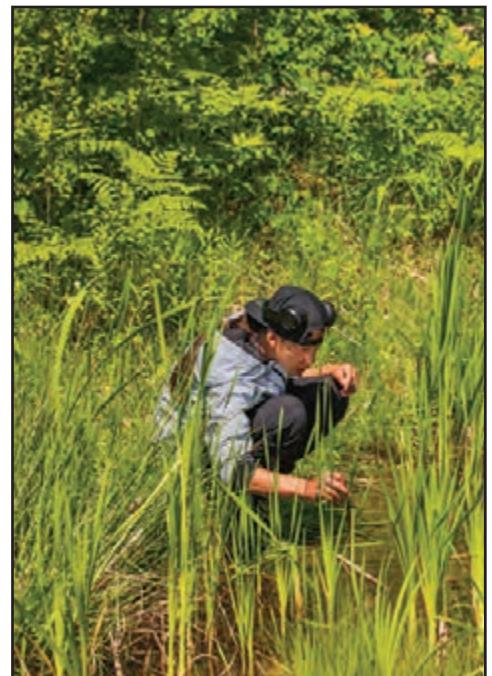
On June 25, 2019, Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Community Health (CH) held its annual "A Day of Fishing" for Men's Health month which is highlighted in the month of June. The event was held at Devil's Lake and was open to FCP community men and their families.

The day and weather couldn't have been more perfect with sunny skies and temperatures in the high 70s to low 80s. There were around 25 individuals that showed up throughout the day to fish. While there, they were also able to obtain important information about men's health and how to prevent health issues in their everyday lives. FCP CH

employees CH Representative Leah Littleton and Diabetes Coordinator Anne Chrisman were there for any questions the men had and to hand out important information.

It was a great day for the fish to be biting as well with a few bass caught and, more importantly, some bluegill which are always a favorite this time of year. CH also had small giveaways for the men and raffled off a kayak. Congratulations to winner Matthew Kitchell!

Overall, the event was a success and you can for sure keep an eye out for the next Men's Health Month in June 2020.



Cedar, Sage, Sweetgrass & Abalone Shells • Potawatomi Dictionary
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Chief Joseph Pendleton Blankets • Handmade Soaps & Lotions
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Youth Learn Important Safety Skills

by Val Niehaus

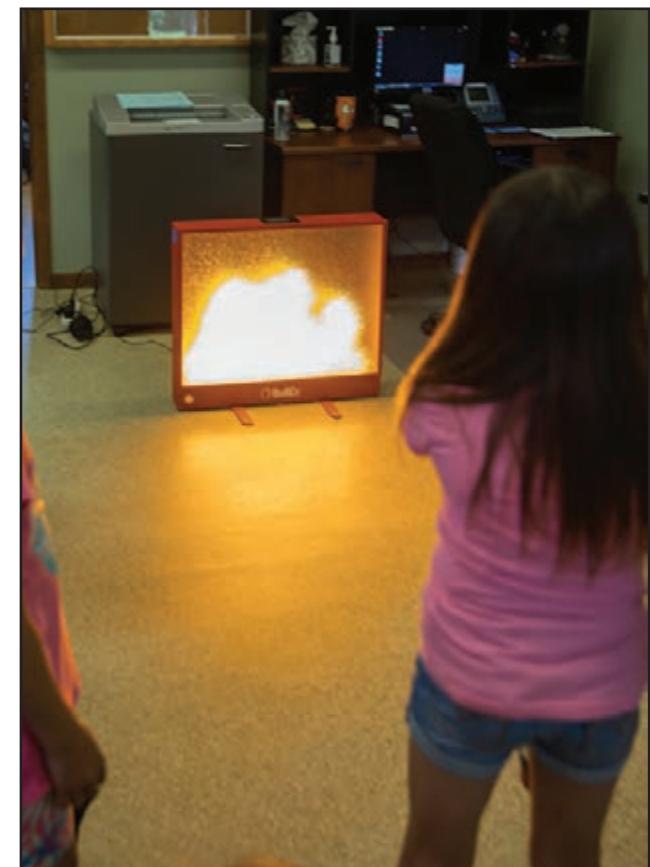
On June 25, 2019, Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Emergency Management Program Manager Bobbie Irocky talked with the Summer Day Camp children ages 7-12. Also participating were youth age 13, who were part of the Life Skills course. The topic was the importance of fire safety and how to properly use a fire extinguisher if ever needed.

The actual fire extinguisher used for this was digital, which was an amazing tool that can be used inside and is much safer compared to lighting an actual- living fire. The youth thought it was a pretty-cool piece of technology. When done using the extinguisher, they all received a

certification of completion along with a Life Straw water bottle and other goodies.

Not only did the youth get to see the extinguisher hands on, but the Laona Fire Department joined in on the event bringing along its fire truck, fire gear and equipment for all the children to see up close and personal. Many thanks to them for doing this with the children on this informative day!

Fire safety is a real issue for anyone who is living. A fire can break out at any time, and knowing these techniques is a lifesaver for these youth along with their families.



2019 Summer Day Camp is in Full Swing

submitted by FCP Education

Once again, Summer Day Camp (SDC) is well under way and we have many exciting activities to come for the children this year. The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) tribe offers a free summer day camp for 7-12 year olds who are affiliated with the community. Camp runs June 18 - July 25, Tuesday through Thursday. During this time, children are given the opportunity to engage in numerous activities including field-trips, natural resource fieldwork, robotics, cooking, math and literacy fun, and recreational games.

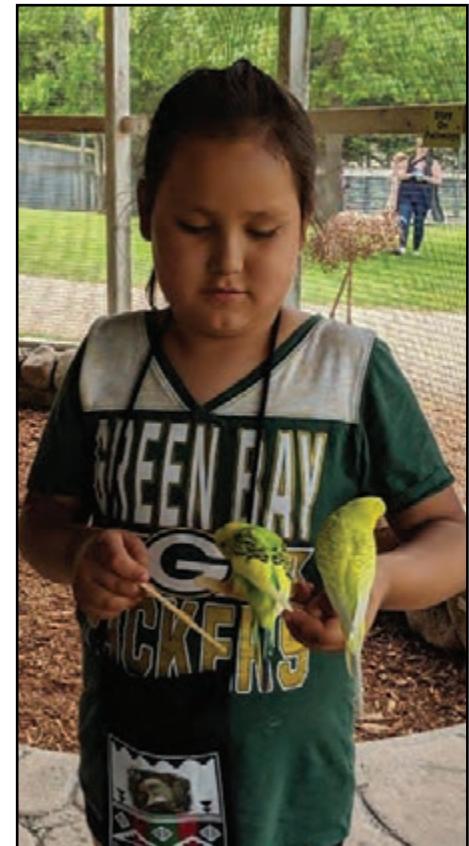
So far this summer, we have had an average of 55 children attending each day. The kids are split into four different groups according to age. There are a total of 12 counselors who attend and participate in activities with the kids. On Tuesday and Wednesday, educational activities are provided by the following departments: Natural Resources, Language, Education, Community Health, Recreation, Family Resources and the Library. Thursdays are our field-trip days. So far, we've attended Wildwood Wildlife Park in Minocqua where we fed the bears, birds, and giraffes while still being

able to pet deer, bunnies and goats. We also visited the Bierman Family Aquatic Center in Merrill where the children were able to play basketball in the pool, go down water slides, and jump off diving boards. We look forward to field-trip days just as much as the kids and can't wait to have more fun inside and outside of our community!

Fire extinguisher training with FCP Emergency Management was one of the highlights of our second week of SDC. The Laona Fire Department graciously lent us two firemen, their equipment, and a firetruck for this hands-on event. Campers were able to use a simulator to practice their fire-extinguishing skills.

This summer, we are excited to include time for artistic endeavors one afternoon a week. So far, the campers have begun individual paintings on canvas. We will see the fruits of their labor in the coming weeks.

As camp continues, we as a community strive to spread knowledge and connections, promote change, make a meaningful difference in the world, balance cultural values, and build self-confidence in our youth.



WEEKEND WALK-IN Clinic

WHY WAIT & WONDER?

The FCP Health & Wellness Center Weekend Walk-In is the fast, convenient and cost-effective way to receive care for minor illnesses and non life-threatening injuries such as:

- Cuts/scrapes
- Sprains
- Skin rashes
- Insect bites
- Fever
- Earache
- Colds, cough, flu
- Sore throat
- Pink eye
- Headache
- Stomach ache
- Urinary burning
- Other minor illnesses

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

 Honoring Health, Healing, and Tradition

 ASPIRUS NETWORK

FCP Housing will offer lawn-mowing services to the elderly and handicapped ONLY. Any questions, please call Housing at (715) 478-7270.

CASTING CALL!

Casting call for Native men and women ages 14 and up to participate in a summer youth FILM project to raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People. No acting is required, but the ability to stand still for five to 15-second shots is needed. Also, must be willing to have makeup/body paint applied. Contact the FILM Program at (715) 478-4963 if interested.



REACH YOUR TARGET

PTT is creating a Marketplace specifically for FCP Tribal Members to advertise items for sale.

Classified Rates (text only)	Display Rates (includes photo)
25 Words or Less: \$5.00	Quarter Page: \$130
30-40 Words: \$7.50	Eighth Page: \$95
50 Words: \$10.00	

Contact Us:
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times@fcpotawatomi-nsn.gov

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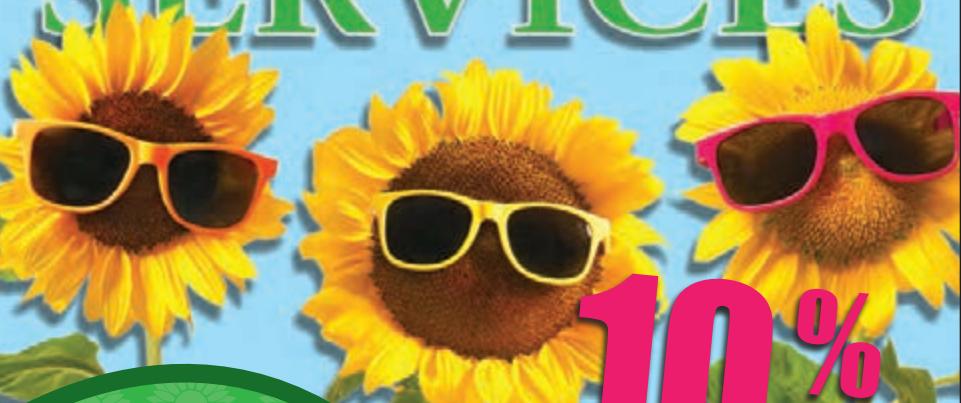
**D I D
Y O U
K N O W**

that the *Traveling Times* pays a freelance fee to FCP tribal members when they submit artwork, articles, stories, photos, etc. for inclusion in the newspaper? We're always looking for interesting items to share with our readership.

Contact us at (715) 478-7437 or times@fcpotawatomi-nsn.gov for more information.

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NOTICES

HEALTH

SERVICES OFFERED

• **Wellbriety** - 12-step meeting, Mondays at 6:30 p.m., FCP Museum lower level. Walking in a good way...a sober way. ALL ARE WELCOME! If you have any questions, call FCP Behavioral Health at (715) 478-4332 or Isaiah Phillips at (715) 889-4945.

• **Kwe Kenomagewen** - Women's support, Wednesdays, 2 p.m. @ Old Tribal Hall. Call (715) 478-4332 with questions.

• **Hour of Power** - Big Book, NA Book or Wellbriety Book, Thursdays, 2 - 3 p.m. @ Old Tribal Hall. Call (715) 478-4332 with questions.

Do You Feel Like No One Understands

You? You're not alone! Let your voice be heard! Let someone share your pain! If you are thinking of committing suicide or know someone who is, please get help! Crisis Line: (888) 299-1188 (Serving Forest, Vilas & Oneida counties: 24 hours a day/7 days a week); Kids in Need: (800) 622-9120; The Get-2-Gether Peer Support Drop-In Center: (715) 369-3871; Run-Away Hotline: (800) 621-4000; (800) 273-TALK; TTY: (800) 799-4TTY or visit suicidehotlines.com.

Smoking Cessation Incentive Program -

Open to FCP tribal members and individuals eligible for Alternative Care Program. Services include: appointments with nurses and CHRs to determine a quit plan, kit filled with items that aid in the quitting process, educational materials and products, plus a reward upon completion of third smoking cessation appointment.

To learn more about the program or to schedule an appointment, contact Sara Cleere-man, R.N., at (715) 478-4889.

SPARKS Weight Mgmt. Program -

By appointment. S - Support; P - Program; A - Get Active, Stay Active; R - Reap the Rewards: feel better, be healthier; K - Know the basics of good nutrition; S - Stay focused on being healthy. Please call Lisa Miller, RD, CD, at (715) 478-4320.

Diabetes Education Program -

By appointment. Including blood glucose monitoring, making healthy changes, psychosocial, complications, sick day and travel, planning for pregnancy, hypoglycemia, medications, diabetes in general, insulin and goal setting. Please call Anne Chrisman, RN, at (715) 478-4383, or Cathy Chitko at (715) 478-4367.

CULTURE

Language Classes -

Please call (715) 478-4173 with questions regarding times/locations of language classes.



Tribal Employment Skill Program - available to adult tribal members who can be placed on a paid work experience opportunity in various tribal departments for up to six months. This allows tribal members to test drive different areas to find a good fit. The staff can assist with:

• Obtaining, reinstating, determining what is needed to obtain the driver's license

- Work-related expenses
- Résumé development/résumé critiquing
- Mock interviews and tips
- Job-seeking skills/soft skills
- Employment guidance/advocacy
- Fidelity bonding available

Work Study Program - for students that are in their senior year. Students can be on a work experience but must have good standings in all their school classes. We work with the FCP Education Department to set this up.

Badgercare - a state/federally-funded program that provides health coverage for individuals living on the reservation or within Forest County, tribal children and affiliated-tribal members.

Foodshare - a state/federally-funded program that provides an EBT food card to eligible individuals living on the reservation or individuals that have tribal children living in Forest County. The program has eligibility requirements that also considers shelter/housing expenses.

Foodshare Employment & Training Program (FSET) - individuals that are eligible for Foodshare would be eligible for this program which can assist with gas voucher, job training costs and other expenses relative to the goals that are set for securing employment.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - this work program is funded through the Administration for Children and Families with an income limit of 125 percent of federal poverty level for individuals living on the reservation or individuals living in Forest County that have FCP tribal children. Individuals get a cash payment each month providing that they completed their work activities each month.

General Assistance (GA) - this work program is funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and is available for federally-recognized tribal members living on the reservation. Eligible individuals will get a cash payment each month providing that they are complying with the work plan developed with their case worker.

Native Employment Works (NEW) Program - this work program is funded through the Administration for Children and Families for individuals living on the reservation or within the service area. The paid work placement opportunity is for three months at 24-35 hour per week and we have limited slots available based on funding.

Resource Rooms - located at the old tribal hall and at the Family Services Building. Each area has computers that individuals can utilize to complete their résumé, type correspondence, work on the self-paced Microsoft Computer Training Program, apply for jobs, or apply online for healthcare coverage programs.

FCP Economic Support staff is available to provide services. If you want more information on any of these programs, please stop by the Family Services Building or call (715) 478-4433.



POTAWATOMI
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORP

Anniversaries: PAUL AND JUDY TURN "1" AT PBDC



This July marks the one-year anniversary for Paul Hoesly, Chief Financial Officer, and Judy Hoppe Haack, Human Resources Director at Potawatomi Business Development Corporation.



Brew Crew: GMS AND PBDC ENJOY GAME HOSTED BY JCI

Summer screams baseball and few employees from Greenfire Management Services and Potawatomi Business Development Corporation had to answer that call! On June 25, Johnson Controls, Inc., hosted them in its suite for a game against the Seattle Mariners. Despite a disappointing loss, they enjoyed great food and great comaderie with co-workers, friends and family.



Wgemas: REFECTORY GRAND OPENING

On May 22, Potawatomi Business Development Corporation held a grand opening in celebration of the completion of the Wgemas building renovation. The event brought together members of the Forest County Potawatomi Community, including Executive Council, elders, members and also many participants from other nations and tribes. There were local and municipal authorities there, along with Mayor Tom Barrett, to commemorate the building's storied-past in parallel with the Potawatomi Tribe. Formerly the Refectory building of the old Concordia College Campus, the Wgemas building serves as an additional resource for the Forest County Potawatomi and houses the Indian Council of the Elderly, Lisa McKay of Lisa Kaye Catering, along with future tenant spaces. Greenfire served as the construction manager on this project, which is part of a multi-year, \$50 million redevelopment of the former Concordia College Campus.



Secretary Names Great Plains BIA Regional Director

submitted by Indian Affairs.gov

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 27, 2019) – Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Tara Sweeney announced the appointment of Timothy LaPointe as the Great Plains Regional Director. The appointment was effective June 23, 2019.

"I am confident in Timothy LaPointe's commitment to Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Great Plains Region. He has expertise in managing staff, programs, and services, which has the potential to return the highest yield to the tribal communities that we serve," said Assistant Secretary Sweeney. "I am proud to name LaPointe as the director of the Great Plains Regional Office."

"Cultivating a qualified pool of executives with managerial expertise to serve in a variety of leadership roles when needed is crucial to the future of the Bureau of Indian Affairs," said BIA Director Darryl LaCounte. "Among our top priorities is to fill BIA's leadership positions with highly-qualified managers who will provide continuity and expertise in trust management in accordance with the BIA mission."

"I am committed to carrying out the mission and trust responsibility of the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the 16 tribes in the BIA Great Plains Region," said Regional Director LaPointe. "I am proud

to return as the leader for a great office and a great team."

LaPointe returns to the Great Plains Regional Office after serving as the Midwest Regional Director since February 2018. From February 2011 to November 2014, LaPointe had served as the Deputy Regional Director – Trust Services for the Great Plains Region and as Regional Director. He was one of the first Fiduciary Trust Officers (FTO) for the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, where he oversaw trust financial programs for the Eastern Region, Eastern Oklahoma Region, and the Southern Plains Region. He also served as the FTO for

the BIA Great Lakes Agency.

LaPointe, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, holds a juris doctorate from the University of Arkansas and a bachelor's degree from the University of the Ozarks, where he majored in public administration with a minor in accounting.

The BIA Great Plains Region provides funding and support to 16 federally-recognized Indian tribes located in the states of North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. Tribes in this region encompass over 6 million acres.

Secretary Names BIA Midwest Regional Director

submitted by Indian Affairs.gov

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 27, 2019) – Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Tara Sweeney announced the appointment of Tammie Poitra to the position of the Midwest BIA Regional Director. The appointment was effective June 23, 2019.

"It is with great pride that I name Tammie Poitra as the Midwest BIA Regional Director," said Assistant Secretary Sweeney. "I have the upmost confidence in her leadership capabilities to work with the 36 Tribes and the staff that comprises the regional office and the four BIA agencies. Congratulations, Ms. Poitra."

"Cultivating a qualified pool of executives with managerial expertise to serve in

a variety of leadership roles when needed is crucial to the future of the Bureau of Indian Affairs," said BIA Director Darryl LaCounte. "Among our top priorities is to fill BIA's leadership positions with highly-qualified managers who will provide continuity and expertise in trust management in accordance with the BIA mission."

"It is a great honor to become the Midwest BIA Regional Director," said Regional Director Poitra. "I have a great commitment to the Bureau's mission, and I look forward to carrying out our trust responsibilities for the tribes in our region."

Until this announcement, Poitra

served as the Deputy Regional Director for Trust Services in the Midwest Region since July 2010. She has over 33 years of combined federal service. In 2018, she served as the acting Northwest Regional Director. She previously served as the Superintendent of the BIA Winnebago Agency. From 1995 to 2000, she was the Fiduciary Trust Officer and Trust Accountant for the Northwest Region with the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians. Poitra worked as the Midwest Regional Budget Officer from 2000 to 2004.

Poitra is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and holds an associate's degree in

computer programming from the North Dakota State School and Science, and a bachelor's degree in business administration and accounting. She attended a University of Phoenix master's degree program.

The BIA Midwest Region provides funding and support to 36 federally-recognized Tribes located in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa. Tribes in the Midwest Region encompass approximately 62 million acres, including treaty-eded territories, representing millions of acres of forests, lakes, streams and wetlands.

National Indian Education Association Welcomes New Executive Director

submitted by PRNewswire

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 1, 2019) - The National Indian Education Association's (NIEA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Diana Cournoyer (Oglala Sioux Tribe) as the organization's new executive director. After a nationwide search, the board overwhelmingly supported Cournoyer, who has been serving as the interim executive director.

It was not only because of Cournoyer's excellent leadership as interim executive director, but also her creativity, thoroughness, and dedication to the service of Native students that the NIEA Board was committed to having her continue as executive director.

She first joined NIEA as a program manager nearly six years ago, and through her passion and enthusiasm for supporting Native students, has been a key driver in expanding NIEA's work beyond the halls of the U.S. Capitol to communities across Indian Country. As program director, Cournoyer helped shape broader teacher hiring initiatives, created more opportunities for visits to tribal communities, acquired millions in grant funding for NIEA, testified before the U.S. Congress in support of Native education, and inspired professional trust and collaboration among staff, colleagues, organizations and Native nations across the country. "I am deeply honored to

be chosen for this important role and am looking forward to continuing to strengthen Native education and reach students, tribal leaders, educators, administrators, and advocates through NIEA's resources, trainings, events, and support," said Cournoyer about her new role.

As executive director, Cournoyer will direct a 10-person staff in carrying out the organization's 7-Pillar Strategic Plan which includes: advocacy; building tribal education capacity; culture-based education; skilled teachers and leaders; establishing educational standards, assessments, and accountability, and post-secondary success.

Prior to joining NIEA, Diana worked

with the Oglala Lakota College Graduate Studies Department, managing the Education Administration Professional Development Grant and Educational Leadership master's degree program. Her work realigned the Education Administration curriculum and objectives with national and South Dakota State educational standards. Cournoyer is married to Gerald Cournoyer MFA (Oglala Sioux Tribe) who is the Dean of the School of Arts at Bacone College in Muskogee, Okla. They have one son and one daughter and are each other's greatest support in their efforts to improve Native education opportunities.

Secretary Applauds Nomination for Chair of NIGC

submitted by Department of the Interior Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 25, 2019) – President Donald J. Trump announced his intent to nominate E. Sequoyah Simermeyer to chair the National Indian Gaming Commission. Simermeyer, a member of the Coharie Tribe, previously advised the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, served under the Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, and worked for the National Congress of American Indians.

“Sequoyah Simermeyer has a wealth of experience on tribal issues working in

different executive and legislative branch capacities,” said U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt. “He is the ideal candidate for this position, and I urge Congress to confirm him quickly.”

“We appreciate the President quickly nominating a new Chair of the National Indian Gaming Commission,” said Senator John Hoeven (R-ND), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. “Mr. Simermeyer has years of experience that qualify him for NIGC Chair including serving as Counselor and Deputy

Chief of Staff to the Department of the Interior’s Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, as Counsel on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and presently as Associate Commissioner of the NIGC since November 2015. We look forward to hearing about Mr. Simermeyer’s vision for the NIGC during the confirmation process.”

In his current role as a Commissioner and the Director of Self-Regulation for the National Indian Gaming Commission, Simermeyer works with federal,

state, and tribal bodies on national gaming regulatory policy and compliance as well as self-regulation petitions.

Simermeyer formerly advised the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and served as the Deputy Chief of Staff and as a Counselor to the Department of the Interior’s Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. He also advocated on national and international policy issues with the National Congress of American Indians and holds a law degree from Cornell Law School.

Senate Passage of 11 Indian Affairs Committee Bills Announced

submitted by the Office of Tom Udall

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 28, 2019) – U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.), vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, announced unanimous Senate passage of 11 Indian Affairs Committee bills, including two Udall-led bills and two Udall-cosponsored bills. All 11 bills will now be sent to the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration.

“The 11 bills passed out of the Senate seek to level the playing field for tribes and Native communities. As vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, I’m proud to continue this committee’s long bipartisan tradition of working together to advance policies that promote tribal sovereignty and tribal parity,” said Udall. “These bills are an important first step toward achieving Indian Country’s priorities during the 116th Congress, and I’m committed to working with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to get each and every one of them across the finish line and signed into law.”

Udall’s S. 256, the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Programs Reauthorization Act, and S. 294, the Native American Business Incubators Program Act, were included in the package heading over to the House of Representatives.

The Esther Martinez Native American Languages Programs Reauthorization Act

will amend existing law to reauthorize two federal Native American language programs at the Administration for Native Americans until 2024, expand eligibility for those programs to smaller-sized tribal language programs, and allow both programs to offer longer grant periods.

The Native American Business Incubators Program Act will create a competitive grant program in the Department of the Interior’s Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development to establish and maintain business incubators that specialize in assisting Native-owned small businesses to navigate those unique challenges.

“Esther Martinez’s work as a Native language advocate has inspired generations of Native Americans and New Mexicans,” said Udall. “Her legacy stands as a call to action for Congress to continue its support for Native communities that are working to maintain and revitalize their languages. I’m proud to lead this bill named in her honor.”

Udall continued, “Supporting Native small business development will strengthen communities across Indian Country. My Native American Business Incubators Program Act will help jumpstart tribal economies by filling critical gaps for Native entrepreneurs, who often face unique barriers in access to capital and resources. It will provide workspace, professional networking opportunities, and access to

community expertise – particularly as it applies to doing business on trust lands.”

Two Udall-cosponsored bills were also included among the 11 bills passed by the Senate:

- S. 209, the Practical Reforms and Other Goals to Reinforce the Effectiveness of Self-Governance and Self-Determination (PROGRESS) for Indian Tribes Act, will streamline the Department of the Interior’s self-governance process and provide Indian tribes with greater flexibility to efficiently tailor, consolidate and administer federal programs for their communities.

- S. 257, the Tribal HUD-VASH Act of 2019, will formally codify a joint Tribal housing initiative between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program to provide rental and housing assistance to homeless veterans in Indian Country.

“For more than 30 years now, tribal self-governance programs have empowered Native communities and affirmed tribal sovereignty. The PROGRESS for Indian Tribes Act builds on that success by strengthening tribes’ ability to exercise self-determination and self-governance of federal Indian programs. By promoting local control and administration of federal Indian programs and providing clear requirements for negotiating compacts

and contracts, tribes will be better able to customize federal Indian programs to suit their communities’ needs,” said Udall.

“Veterans should never have to worry about having a roof over their heads once they return from service. The tribal HUD-VASH Act recognizes the dedication of Native veterans by ensuring that they have equal access to this critical Veterans housing program,” said Udall.

The Senate also passed the following seven bills in its Indian Affairs package.

- S. 46, the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act
- S. 50, the Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act
- S. 199, the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act
- S. 212, Indian Community Economic Enhancement (ICEE) Act
- S. 216, Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation Equitable Compensation Act
- S. 224, A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and to the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation located in Dillingham, Alaska, and for other purposes.
- S. 832, A bill to nullify the Supplemental Treaty Between the United States of America and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Indians of Middle Oregon, concluded on November 15, 1865.



AG Announces Emergency Funding to Address Public Safety Crisis In Rural Alaska

submitted by Department of Justice

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 28, 2019) – Attorney General William P. Barr declared a law enforcement emergency in rural Alaska under the Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Program, making \$6 million immediately available to the state of Alaska for critical law enforcement needs of Alaska Native villages. Recognizing that Alaska has the highest per capita crime rate in the country and the unique circumstances of Alaska's geographical and jurisdictional landscape, the Attorney General authorized additional funding and several long-term measures to support village public safety and victim services.

The \$6 million in emergency funding from the Office of Justice Program's Bureau of Justice Assistance (OJP-BJA) will go toward hiring, equipping, and training Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs), Village Police Officers (VPOs), and Tribal Police Officers (TPOs) working in rural Alaska, as well as for mobile detention facilities.

In addition, the Department of Justice Office on Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) will award \$4.5 million in funding for 20 officer positions, along with equipment and training, to Alaska Native grantees by the end of July.

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and the Office on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) will support Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) in rural Alaska's major hubs, which provide wrap-around services, forensic interviews, and medical exams for child victims. OVC and OJJDP have identified up to \$14 million in available funding for CACs in Alaska and the lower 48 states.

"In May, when I visited Alaska, I witnessed firsthand the complex, unique, and dire law enforcement challenges the State of Alaska and its remote Alaska Native communities are facing," said Attorney General Barr. "With this emergency declaration, I am directing resources where they are needed most and needed immediately, to support the local law

enforcement response in Alaska Native communities, whose people are dealing with extremely high rates of violence. I am also directing each component and law enforcement agency of the Justice Department to submit plans within the next 30 days to further support federal, state, and tribal public safety efforts in rural Alaska. Lives depend on it, and we are committed to seeing a change in this unacceptable, daily reality for Alaska Native people."

The Attorney General also announced a Rural Alaska Violent Crime Reduction Working Group, led by U.S. Attorney Bryan Schroder. The Working Group will look for ways to build the capacity of federal, state, and tribal law enforcement in rural Alaska and its work will have a particular emphasis on crimes of domestic violence and crimes against children. BJA is also making an additional \$162,000 available to the U.S. Attorney's Office to establish an additional Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) target site encompassing rural Alaska.

Alaska is home to some of the most remote communities in all of America. This geographic isolation contributes to law enforcement problems not seen anywhere else in our Nation. According to one estimate, one-third of Alaskan villages have no local law enforcement personnel at all. According to a 2016 study funded by the National Institute of Justice, more than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native adults have experienced some form of violence in their lifetime, and more than half of all American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence from an intimate partner. The lack of law enforcement resources results in a high violent crime rate, especially in Alaska Native communities.

Additional near-term measures by Department of Justice components include:

- The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) will issue an award for sexual assault training and technical assistance in Alaska, including training

community health aides in Alaska Native villages to perform sexual assault forensic exams and training for victim advocates. The project will include community sexual assault training, which will address coordinated responses to sexual assault across the community. This award will also train village-based victim advocates to accompany victims throughout the process, including prosecution, as appropriate.

- OVC is extending its application deadline for the Crime Victim Fund tribal set-aside solicitation (part of the \$167 million available to tribes for victim services in FY 2019) to Aug. 16, 2019. This money may be used to fund direct services and advocacy, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis services, children advocacy programs, and elder abuse programs.

- BJA is extending its application deadline to July 15, 2019, for programs that target mental health/drug addiction, reentry initiatives, and community crime reduction.

The COPS Office has two grant programs that it will reopen to afford Alaska the opportunity to apply:

- The Anti-Methamphetamine Program (CAMP) is open to state law enforcement agencies with multijurisdictional reach and interdisciplinary team (e.g., task force) structures, in states with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures.

- The COPS Anti-Heroin Task Force (AHTF) Program is open to state law enforcement agencies with multi-jurisdictional reach and interdisciplinary team (e.g., task force) structures, in states with high per capita rates of primary treatment admissions.

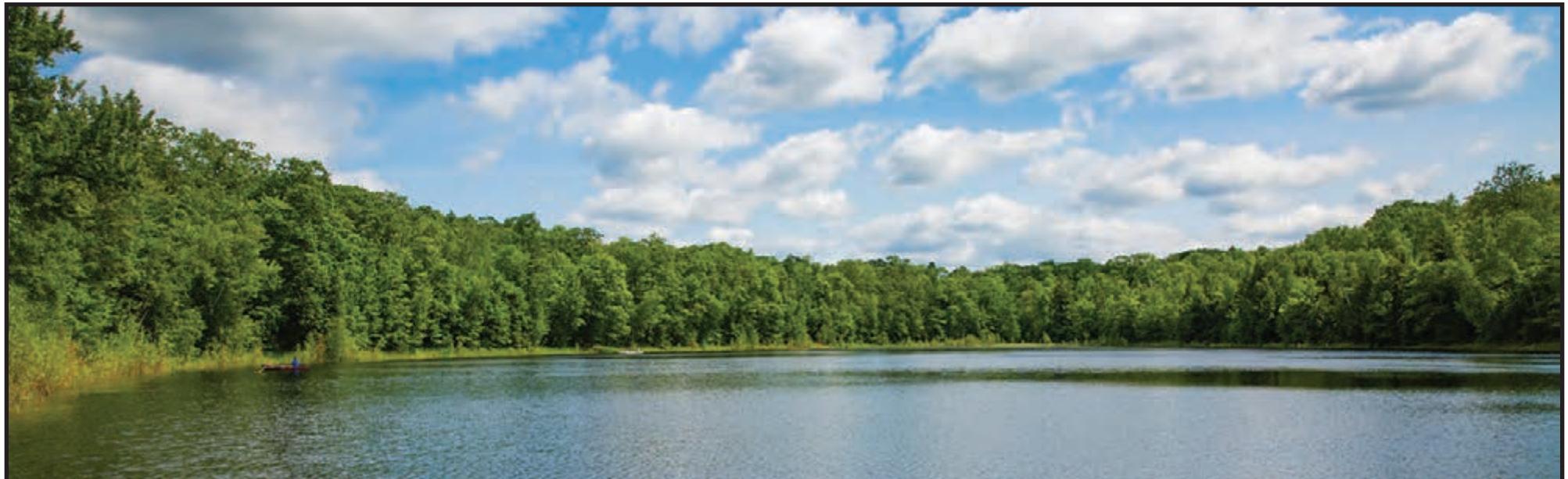
As the Department develops a comprehensive response to public safety issues in Alaska, Attorney General Barr expressed his commitment to working closely with American Indian and Alaska Native leadership as well as Congressional and state representatives to ensure

Departmental solutions are practical and effective. The Attorney General will also travel to an Indian country location in the lower 48 states in the coming months, recognizing the significant public safety challenges that persist for many Native American communities.

"I want to be sure that the support this Department offers to Alaska Native communities will support solutions identified by the communities themselves," said Attorney General Barr. "The only way for us to provide effective support is to work in partnership with others. This is true in Alaska and throughout Indian country."

In a memo to all Justice Department component leaders, the Attorney General directed every component and law enforcement agency to submit a plan in the next 30 days to further support these efforts in Alaska, focusing in particular on the following goals:

- Increasing the federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement presence in Alaska and ways to provide more prosecutorial resources for the criminal cases that will result from increased law enforcement presence;
- Reducing violent crime, especially gun violence;
- Decreasing sexual assaults of women and children;
- Providing better immediate and long-term services to victims of crime;
- Cutting off supplies of methamphetamines, opioids, and other illegal drugs;
- Addressing the problem of alcohol abuse and its role in violent crime and crimes against children;
- Increasing addiction prevention and treatment services to those struggling with addictions to drugs and alcohol;
- Providing adequate detention facilities in remote locations; and,
- Incorporating technology into law enforcement efforts to improve response times and decrease travel costs for victims and witnesses.





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AUGUST 16, 17 & 18, 2019

Ka Kew Se Gathering Grounds,
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Friday 7pm
Saturday 1pm and 7pm
Sunday 12pm

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Casey Mac Wallahee

CO-EMCEE:

Nicholas Hanson

ARENA DIRECTOR:

Lil Man Quintero

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PEMMA FAMILY GRASS DANCE SPECIAL:

1st - \$1,000, 2nd - \$750, 3rd - \$500, 4th - \$250

COMMITTEE SINGING CONTEST:

\$8,000 \$6,000 \$4,000 \$2,000 \$1,000

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