Federal Judge Dismisses Lawsuit

In a 38-page decision, a federal judge threw out the lawsuit filed by Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt and the Cherokee County Commission. The lawsuit sought to block the expansion of Downstream Casino Resort into Kansas. Judge Daniel Crabtree wrote that Kansas courts don’t have the jurisdiction to review an advisory opinion by National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) attorneys. NIGC’s attorneys’ opinion allows Downstream to have gaming on tribal trust land in Cherokee County, Kansas. Crabtree also wrote that Schmidt and Cherokee County had not met the legal threshold to challenge the opinion because the opinion was not a final decision by the NIGC. He also said the Quapaw Tribe had not waived its tribal immunity against lawsuits. The lawsuit that was filed in the U.S. District Court in Topeka was against the National Indian Gaming Commission, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, and 22 other federal and Quapaw officials, including Chair John Berrey. Berrey wrote in a recent statement that Kansas Governor Sam Brownback had asked the Quapaw Tribe to request the opinion from NIGC as part of the tribe’s effort to negotiate a compact to allow casino gambling on Quapaw trust land in Kansas.

“Not only did Governor Brownback not engage in good-faith negotiations, as he promised, but he and Attorney General Derek Schmidt deliberately targeted and harassed a number of our tribal leaders by suing them,” Berrey wrote. “Most of these people had no connection or involvement with tribal gaming. The suit appears to have been nothing but an attempt to discourage the tribe from pursuing its rights under federal law. This case should cause people in Kansas to ask a lot of questions, especially about Governor Brownback’s treatment of Indians and use of taxpayers’ money.”

Sean Harrison, Public Relations for Downstream Casino Resort, said the tribe would eventually like to have games such as craps and roulette on its reservations to supplement the tribe’s business. The tribe would eventually like to have games such as craps and roulette on its reservations to supplement the tribe’s business. Harrison said that Kansas Governor Sam Brownback received a letter from the tribe’s attorney, which he ignored. The letter stated that the tribe would eventually like to have games such as craps and roulette on its reservations to supplement the tribe’s business.

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I have been praying that everyone is staying warm during this winter season. It has been a different winter, and, like so many winters we have endured in the past, we have lost some very incredible members. We will miss them and always remember them in our prayers.

Below, Chairman John Berrey fans off Muriel Lederman of the Sisterhood of Congregation B’nai Is- rael and other interfaith leaders during a ceremony in November at the Clinton Presidential Park in Little Rock. The ceremony was held to bless the Anne Frank Tree—a sapling taken from the white cherry blossom tree that stood outside the secret annex where the Frank family hid from the Nazis during World War II.

An Update from Chairman John Berrey

With all my love,
John L. Berrey
Business Committee Chairman

Greenfeather, from page 1

Jim Greenfeather, a U.S. Army veteran who served in the infantry as a paratrooper from 1961 to 1963 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and Fort Bragg, North Carolina, before spending a brief time in Cuba with his unit.

"Back then paratroopers relied on the pilot for the correct jumping coordinates and on each other for jumping safety. Each guy would check the a parachute of the guy in front of him," Greenfeather recalled. Having made 16 jumps in his paratrooper career, Greenfeather said that the night jumps were the most challenging. "When you landed you only had a compass and your maps."

Challenges however, are something that Jim is used to overcoming. His mother died while he was still young, and his grandmother raised him when his father was on the road as a truck driver. "She did the best she could," Jim said.

Then he went to Chilocco Indian School. Jim said Chilocco was much like basic training would be later; it taught you about discipline and responsibility.

Greenfeather’s health challenges include three knee replacements due to complications, a heart attack and self-discipline and responsibility.

Greenfeather remains an active member of the tribe working first for the Maintenance Department, currently for the Housing Department, and also serves on the Grievance Committee.

Greenfeather is a talented craftsman carving feathers form bone, making gorups for gourd dances, and fashioning hat picks. He started the Quapaw Tribe Gourd Club comprised of veterans with the support of Chairman John Berrey and the Business Committee.

"The club represents warriors when they come back from war and the fallen," Greenfeather said. Having made 16 jumps in his paratrooper career, Greenfeather said that the night jumps were the most challenging. "When you landed you only had a compass and your maps."

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**Ellicott, from page 1**

American Indian Law Students Association (John E. Echowhawk, Pawnee);

The last living great niece of Will Rogers who herself is a noted storyteller and author that has been named a "Cherokee Nation Tribal Historian." "Coke" Lake Mey er, Cherokee;

An environmental activist who was director of the United Nations Permanent Forum on indigenous issues (Casey Camp-Horinek, Pawnee);

A role model for young women whose selection as first runner-up in the 1949 Miss Oklahoma Pageant was a result of a "demonstration of the Native Americans in that era (Dorothy Burden, Thlopthlochos)."

In addition, Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Joan Aitson, Comanche Chairman Wallace Coffey, Wyandotte Chief Billy Friend and Traditional Cheyenne-Arapo Chief Allen Sutton were among those honored.

Tom Anderson, Director of the Oklahoma Area Tribal Epidemiology Center of the Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board, was awarded the Dr. Smithsonian Launches SOVA

Need Access to Archival Material? If you need material from the Smithsonian, it is not accessible online. The recently launched Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives, or SOVA, allows access to archival collections.

Users now can discover these unique resources via Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives (SOVA), an online interface that provides access to archival collections, including digitized archival description for that, and associated digital online content, including letters, manuscripts, diaries and journals, ledgers and stock books, photographs, scrapbooks, sketchbooks and drawings, technical blueprints and field notebooks, log books, rare printed materials, journals, books, and much more. Collection descriptions can be downloaded as either EAD or PDF documents.

The Smithsonian Institution has vast archival collections that measure around 137,000 cubic feet, making its collective holdings one of the largest repositories of primary sources in the United States. Held in 14 individual repositories, the collections tell the story of our nation’s shared history, cultural, folk, natural, technological and scientific heritage, as well as the history of the Institution itself.

SOVA also allows users to browse easily to related museum and library collections with simple links to the National Museum Center, as well as to archival collection descriptions from other institutions across the world in OCLC’s Archiv.io Grid. The technical platform is based on open source technology. Most of the EAD or PDF documents are created and managed using open-source tools for the Smithso n Institution development responsive design to ensure that desktop and all mobile tablets and devices are well supported.

This is a significant milestone in providing access to its archival collections. They will continue to add new functionality, new collection and more digitized objects in the near future. Archives: HTTP://SOVA.si.edu.

**Winter, 2016 Quapaw Tribal News**

We are an active volunteer in the Madill Area Historical Society that opened in 2006. Freeman, however, was instrumental in tribal constitutional emphasis on cultural activities and helped foster a renewed emphasis on cultural activities and helped foster a renewed emphasis on cultural activities.
Marine Corps Medal for Heroism and a second Cluster and Airplane Pilot's Cluster and Army Commendation Media with the 1st Oak Leaf Cluster while assigned as Unit Sergeant Major and Helicopter Platoon Sergeant. In 2011, he was awarded the Cherokee Medal of Patriotism. He volunteers extensively for Indian Country Today Media, including the Indian Health Care Resource Center and Red Earth and he serves on the Board of the IHS Affairs Commission in Tulsa. He currently works inspecting State Department helicopters in Iraq and has been called to serve his country to troops aboard Navy warships.

Carol Jane Davis (Cherokee) – a full blood who has devoted her personal career to helping tribal citizens and their families. Mrs. Davis was a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who assisted Native patients that did not know how to navigate the non-Indian healthcare system. She often served as an interpreter for patients who only spoke Cherokee. She is a very active member of the community, for the Cherokee Nation and her church and a mentor to young Native Americans who are trying to find their way in the world. Her favorite motto is “Don’t say I can’t.”

Irene Digby (Chickasaw) – small in size but mighty in her Chickasaw heritage, Mrs. Digby is a distinguished storyteller and teacher of language, songs, and Chickasaw traditional recipes. Often asked by parents to provide Chickasaw names for their children, she has written three books published by Chicka- saw Press, Mike Larsen’s acclaimed painting series “Elders of the Chickasaw Nation” and the documentary Chickasaw Removal. She was induced into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame in 2014 and honored for her charitable contributions with an honorary degree from the University of Tulsa Alumni Association in 2013.

John E. Echowak (Pawnee) – a native of Fritch, Texas, he was the first graduate of the University of New Mexico’s special program to train Indian lawyers and the first non-African American member of the American Indian Law Students Association. Mr. Echowak has been with the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) since 1970, and has served as Executive Director since 1977. He has been a leader in the national movement of influential lawyers in America by the National Law Journal. He also serves on the Boards of the American Bar Association and the Association on American Indian Af- fairs, the Indigenous Language Institute, Natural Resources Defense Council and the National Council for American Indian Enterprise Development.

Henry Ellick (Quapaw) – hard working, committed and persever- ant, his passion for the well-being of future of his tribe continues to motivate others where he goes. During his tenure in tribal ad- ministration, he has forged a rapport with young people of the tribe that continued in his work with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. During his tenure, he was a positive influence on many people through a physical train- ing program. Mr. Ellick, age 64, Mr. Ellick (known as “Chief” in the ring) brought home a championship belt from the 11th Annual Gold Belt Games, and attended the championship tournaments in Kansas City. He currently serves on the Quapaw tribal Grievance Commission and is a member of the Qua- paw Scout Club.

Parker Emohoolah (Kiowa) – a re- tired 30-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, he has had a tremendous impact as a youth mentor and foster parent for Co- manche, Kiowa and Apache Indian students. He has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of health care for American Indians in Oklahoma. He also attended an inaugural ball and pow wow honoring President Clinton’scompressed Oklahoma Histori- cal Museum of the American In- dian.

John Farris (Cherokee) – has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of health care for American Indians in Oklahoma. For over 10 years, Dr. Farris has served as Chief Medical Officer for the Oklahoma City Area Office of Indian Health Ser- vices and as Chief Medical Director at W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital in Tahlequah. He leader- ship and advocacy, along with his creation of a wound care program now being used at clinics through- out the state, has improved patient care for the many thousands of Oklahoma tribal members.

Leona Fish (Muscogee Creek) – through her dedicated volun- teerism and passion for the tribe, she has devoted hundreds of lives directing a suc- cessful senior program at the Tulsa Creek Indian Center. She works with the Indian Elderly, Mrs. Fish plans activities that help focus attention on issues affecting seniors and promoting tribal cul- ture. She also helps people to share their stories and communication skills have added support and strength to the Tulsa Creek Indian Center.

Nancy Ficicio (Seminole) – a member of the White Oak Clan, her skills and talents are known far and wide. Mrs. Ficicio fluently speaks the native language, has served as a chairman and Board Chief of the Eagle Band and three time representative. Mrs. Ficicio is an artist who has been involved with many other organizations such as the Red Earth Childcare Committee, Juvenile Task- force and the Language Program. Chief Billy Fyland (Wyandotte) – a pioneer in the Wyandotte language revitalization project, he is inspired by the late Chief Leopold Barksin, he has helped expand the Wyandotte language island opportunities & community outreach for the tribe. Under Chief’s leadership, the tribe creat- ed the Wyandotte Language Project (an event for tribal children and youth), completed construction of a new community center and a splash pad. During his tenure, tribal college scholarships have been increased and medical services have been expanded.

Howard Hansen, Sr. (Ute) – a first nations for whom he has worked, a decorated veteran who was awarded the Bronze Star and numerous citations for his service in Vietnam. Howard has served as a first class petty officer and was with the First 192nd Arti- ltery (Charlie Battery). Mr. Hansen served as VFW Commander and Chaplain of the Grove Post, where he is a lifetime member, and as ser- vice officer at the American Legion in Kansas City. He is a former member of the military and now as a General Manage of the Monroney Aeronautics, Mr. Hansen served as national vice president of the National Coalition of Federal Aviation Admin- istration Employees and Chairmen of the Oklahoma City Area Office of Indian Health Services. He was a member of the Federal Executive Board of Okla- homa. He was manager of the Na- tional American Program at the Mike Monroney Aeronautics Center.

Charlie Hill (Seminole) – a member of the Bear Clan, she demonstrated great determination in helping the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma during the death of her husband. She was named “Indian Parent of the Year” in 2001 and was Four- er County Conference Coach of the Year in 1995.

Ron Hayes (Chickasaw) - a retired federal agent and decorated com- bat veteran who has been instrumental in guid- ing Indians on a national level. Mr. Hayes was twice appointed to Presi- dent’s Advisory Committee that developed a five year plan for the FAA reaffirming the relationship of the federal government to Ameri- can Indians and Alaska Natives. He served as national vice president of the National Coalition of Federal Aviation Admin- istration Employees and Chairmen of the Federal Executive Board of Okla- homa. He was manager of the Na- tional American Program at the Mike Monroney Aeronautics Center.

Freida Homemartha (Otoe-Missouria) – a member of the Bear Clan, she demonstrated great determination in helping the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma during the death of her husband. She was named “Indian Parent of the Year” in 2001 and was Four- er County Conference Coach of the Year in 1995.
AARP, from page 4

Conference.

John Wayne Kionut (Caddo) – a revered tribal elder, veteran and advocate for Native American rights, he is the last living great niece of William Joe, who gave his life in battle for his tribe. He is a long-time member of the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church. Before being adopted, he lived in four foster homes, eventually graduating 10th in a class of 156. She later enlisted in the Women's Army Corp. She has been active in tribal affairs her entire adult life and is a volunteer for AOA, a Title VI program.

Brenda Leftwich (Kialegee) – a native of Okfuskee County, she serves as Chairperson of the Kialegee Tribal Town Elders Committee. She is a member of Grace Baptist Church in Wetumka and loves to garden and spend time with family and friends.

Suzie Martinez (Kialegee) – a revered matriarch of her family, Mrs. Martinez, who is the oldest enrolled Kialegee Tribal Town Member, was born and raised in Hughes County. She enjoys cooking traditional Indian food and teaching younger generations about the Kialegee tribe and culture. She is a long-time member of the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church.

Scheri Mashburn (Osage) – has devoted the second chapter of her life toward giving back to her tribe and making a difference in the lives of others. After a 30-year career as a respiratory therapist in Louisiana, she returned to Oklahoma where she worked as a Cessation Specialist for the Crimson Community Health Center and received her B.S. Degree in Public Health from the University of Oklahoma. Over the past year, she has mastered becoming a trained therapist dog that she uses in stressful situations with children and elders in order to create better living conditions for her.

Doris "Coke" Lane Meyer (Cherokee) – the last living great niece of Will Rogers, she has devoted much of her life to her community and Cherokee Heritage Center. She is a graduate of Oklahoma Women's Pocahontas Club which was founded in 1899. She supports the club's scholarship program which sponsors young Cherokee women seeking higher education. Ms. Meyer, who has been named a Cherokee Nation Treasure, exemplifies the Cherokee tradition of storytelling. Her book titled "I Called Him Uncle Will" recounts personal stories of her time with Will Rogers, insights into the Rogers-Lane family and her own life's journey. It has been said that like her famous uncle, "she bleeds green and gold." She has been named a Cherokee NATION Treasure and matrarch of her family, she demonstrates kindness and compassion to others while working to preserve her native language and traditions. She has held many positions in the tribe including: Vice President, President, and current chairwoman of the Cherokee Heritage Center.

Diana Moppin (Alabama Quassarte) – an advocate for her people who worked to elevate causes and conditions of poverty in local communities, she served as director of the Osage Tribe Housing Authority she helped hundreds of Native American families to acquire affordable housing. She also assisted in the construction of several housing developments in Osage County. She has been named a Cherokee Nation Treasure. Ms. Moppin also served four years as Secretary of the Alabama Quassarte Tribal Council.

Doris St. John (Delaware) – is known for her dedication to her heritage and to her people and community. She has been active in her community.

Vada Foster Tiger Nichwander (Euchee/Muscogee Creek) – known as a "language warrior" she is one of only four living first-language speakers of Euchee (Yuchi). At age 94, Mrs. Nichwander is helping to preserve the Euchee language by opening her home and heart to work with students and staff of the Euchee (Yuchi) Language Program. Her graciousness and encyclopedic knowledge is helping to keep the language from becoming extinct. She was honored at the National Indian Education Association in 2016 for her contributions to the field of Native American education.

Bonnie Thaxton (Cheyenne & Arapaho) – is known for her compassion for the health and well-being of her people and commitment of passing on the traditional Arapaho ways and values. She has served more than 30 years in tribal administration including the last 16 years as Chairman of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribal Health Commission, in which capacity she over saw the construction of a new clinical facility in Clinton. Following devastating tornadoes, Chief Thaxton was instrumental in ensuring health services were restored in El Reno. He participates as a Headman for the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, one of the largest and oldest in the traditional hand games.

Glen Stayton (Kiowa & Choctaw) – as executive director of the Native Learning Center, a program of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ms. Smith has helped improve the quality of life for thousands of Native Americans. NIC focuses on culture and language, financial well-being, education, housing strategies and tribal government. She pre- viously served in multiple positions managing the Native American Church in Oklahoma, where she created OU's first-ever Meetings and Management Certification Program.

Ollie Stamps (Wichita) – her heart of service has been an asset to her tribal nation and her entire surrounding community. Mrs. Stamps has worked tirelessly to promote care issues for older Wichites, secured grant money that has enabled young women to pursue higher education and helped improve educational opportunities in the Wichita Tribal School. Mrs. Stamps was instrumental in helping revitalize the Women's Wichita Pocahontas Club, a century old organization.

Traditional Chief Allen Sutt on (Delaware) – is known for his dedication to preserving the Native American language and culture and for his service to his community. He over saw the construction of a new clinical facility in Clinton. Following devastating tornadoes, Chief Thaxton was instrumental in ensuring health services were restored in El Reno. He participates as a Headman for the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, one of the largest and oldest in the traditional hand games.

Dr. Pamela Jumper Thurman, Ph.D. (Cheyenne) – a western Cherokee who has spent her career as a clinical psychologist and researcher, Dr. Thurman is a leader in the field of women's mental health. She has published extensively on issues challenging American Indians and Alaska Natives. Among concerns she has worked to address are: methamphetamine treatment and prevention, violence and sexual victimization and substance use. She is the executive director of Native American Leadership Academy on American Indian women and matriarch of her family, she demonstrates kindness and compassion to others while working to preserve her native language and traditions. She co-leads the annual launch of the Indigenous San Diego app earlier this year. The app, which can be accessed throughout Indigenous San Diego communities, helps users learn about the Indigenous San Diego area, its history and culture. Attendees of the 72nd Annual NCAI Convention and Marketplace were the first to download and experience the Indigenous San Diego app earlier this month. The app allowed the attendees from the 567 recognized Tribal Governments to develop a personal connection with the San Diego area Indigenous community.

The Native American Law Practice Group Procopio announced the launch of the Indigenous San Diego app to help users learn about the Indigenous San Diego area, its history and culture. Attendees of the 72nd Annual NCAI Convention and Marketplace were the first to download and experience the Indigenous San Diego app earlier this month. The app allowed the attendees from the 567 recognized Tribal Governments to develop a personal connection with the San Diego area Indigenous community.

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Tribe Represented at Historic Symposium in Arkansas

On September 12, the Fort Smith National Historic Site commemorated the 150th anniversary of the 1865 Council. The event consisted of a symposium, cultural exhibits and demonstrations, and interpretive programs. The tribes that participated in the event were: Cherokee Nation, Chickasaw Nation, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and Quapaw Tribe. The Quapaw Cultural Committee was asked to set up a traveling exhibit. Jean Ann Lambert and Grae Goodeagle represented the tribe during the event.

In 1865, representatives from 15 Indian Nations and Tribes, and the U.S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs met at Fort Smith to reestablish formal post-Civil War relations between the groups and the U.S. Government. The Fort Smith Council of 1865 provided the foundation for the new 1866 treaties that significantly altered the conditions in Indian Territory and paved the way for Oklahoma statehood. This event historically became known as the 1865 Council.

Presentation by Moore at the SIUE Symposium

Ardina Moore was a guest speaker at the College of Arts & Sciences Symposium at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) on October 31, 2015. The SIUE Anthropology Department requested a joint presentation on the Mounds Project located in the Metro East and Greater St. Louis area that will interconnect with the Cahokia Mound National Historic Site. The panel was largely composed of anthropology students but was also opened to the public.

Guest speakers were Suzanne Kutter-Siburt, an independent consultant that conducted the feasibility study and Ardina Moore, Quapaw Tribal Cultural Committee Chairperson. Suzanne presented the feasibility study and discussed the importance of the collaboration with the American Indian community for the project to succeed. Ardina spoke about the importance of the project, the tribe’s participation in the project, and the migration history.

Some of the cultural committee members accompanied Ardina on the trip. A tour of the mounds project was also provided for the members.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Mounds – America’s First Cities: A feasibility study was conducted to look at national models in evaluating the status of Cahokia Mounds as well as connecting other mound sites remaining in the Southwestern Illinois and St. Louis Region through thematic interpretation. The study included the feasibility of an appropriate national designation and process by which to protect, connect, interpret, promote, and preserve the prehistoric Mississippian Mounds civilization that once thrived in the region. The study is complete and a formal request is going to the President this month. When document is signed, there will be a financial request to the National Park Service for the project.

Below left, tribal members Payton Rice, Patrick Rice, Tari Mathews, Emma Eppler, and Skull Eagle do an exhibition powwow dancing while Cap Littry, Ottawa, explores and Cricket Rice, tribal member, sings. They performed at Nicholas Elementary in Miami for Native American heritage month in November. Below right, tribal members LeCinda Attesiwe and Dale Walters dance at a similar presentation at Quapaw schools.