

15th Annual Tribal Environmental Summit

Daniel Red Thunder Wind

The US EPA and Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC) hosted the 15th Annual Tribal Environmental Summit at the Doubletree Downtown Hotel in Tulsa March 28th-30th. The Tribal Environmental Summit is a time that allows tribes from Region 6 (Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Louisiana) to meet with EPA personnel to discuss any issues and/or concerns within Indian Country. There are two days of meetings between the tribal nations and then with EPA staff followed by a series of workshops on various environmental topics.

The opening ceremonies of the Summit included a presentation of the colors by the Mvskoke Honor Guard. Afterwards Dr. Al Armendariz, EPA Region 6 Regional Administrator, provided opening remarks as well as Mr. Evaristo Cruz, Ysleta Del Sur pueblo, providing updates on the Regional Tribal Operations Committee activities and discussion. Afterwards awards were presented to recognize environmental efforts and outstanding service. EPA presented the EPA Excellence Award to Diane Daniels of the Osage Nation and Barbara Cywinska-Bernacik from Pueblo of Laguna. The Jan Stevens Award was awarded to Margaret Chavez with Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council in New Mexico.

The Jan Stevens Award is provided each year to recognize the efforts of an individual for environmental protection within their tribal nation or community. The purpose of this award:

“To recognize outstanding contributions to environmental protection by a Tribal staff member or tribal member given in memory of Jan Stevens of the Sac and Fox Nation of Oklahoma. Jan Stevens was the Environmental Coordinator for the Sac and Fox Nation of Oklahoma from Sept. 1995 to March of 2003. Jan was a selfless advocate for tribes and the environment. Jan was recognized for her contributions to the following: ANA DHHS review panel, NEJAC, Indigenous Environmental Network, Oklahoma Regional Indigenous Environmental Network, Sac and Fox Nation Nuclear Free Zone Committee, Indian Health Service/Tribal Envi-

ronmental Health Workgroup, Honor the Earth Board member, Region VI RTOC, TASWER, People of Color Environmental Leadership Executive Committee, CenRAP, and TECO.

Jan was very instrumental in building EPA/Tribal relations on many levels. Jan was a compelling leader that was tirelessly devoted to the environment, to tribes and the good of man.” (Jan Stevens Award Nomination Form)

Mrs. Stevens started the Office of Environmental Services (OES) in 1995 with the assistance of the Indian General Assistance Program grant awarded by the EPA. She tragically passed away in a car accident March 4, 2003 in Davenport, Ok. OES recognizes that her initiative and passion for the environment has laid the foundation on what drives this department.

On hand to present the award was Jan Stevens’ son, Sam Spang, USDA, and his Daughter, Santana Spang, Sac and Fox Nation Junior Princess. Mr. Spang offered a few words regarding his mother’s life and work, and also words of encouragement for the environmental professionals in the field. Santana Spang presented Eight Northern Pueblo with a portrait of her grandmother as a gift for being the recipient of the award. Also present were members of Sac and Fox Nation Business Committee, Stella Nullake-Nanaeto, Community Member and Jackie K. Williams, Secretary. Also on hand were Carrie Spang, Realty, and Stevie Williamson, Business Office.

The Office of Environmental Services wishes to thank the Spang family for their participation in this year’s award presentation and also to the elected officials, family, and tribal members that were there to support the Stevens family and the department’s efforts.

Just to remind you if you are interested in receiving information on upcoming events and information let us know so we can add you to our email list at oes@sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov. As always if there are any questions that OES may be able to help you with please feel free to contact us at 918-968-0046 or via email: oes@sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov.



Gardening Workshop *Red Thunder Wind*

The Office of Environmental Services hosted a series of workshops April 16th, 18th, and 20th at the Sac and Fox Learning Center on gardening and composting. These series of workshops was a collaboration effort with the OSU Extension Office of Pottawatomie and Lincoln Counties and instructed by George Driever, Pott. County Extension Director and Educator.

The workshop hosted a total of 6-7 participants throughout the week. Workshops covered material related to soil types and testing, soil management, types of gardens, and pest management. The composting workshop reviewed the composting process, what to compost, and how to maintain a compost area. Handouts of the presenta-

tion and other various topics were provided to the participants by the OSU Extension Office. OES provided refreshments and door prizes to the participants including small garden tool kit and a large composter starter kit on Friday.

OES would like to say a “Thank You” to all the participants, Mr. Driever, and the Learning Center staff that helped make these workshops a success! If you would like more information on gardening you can visit the OSU Extension website: <http://www.hortla.okstate.edu/resources/index.htm>. If you have any other questions or are interested in receiving email on upcoming events please let us know by emailing us at oes@sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov.



Eight Northern Pueblo Representatives, Santana Spang Sac and Fox Nation Junior Princess and Sam Spang USDA. (photo submitted)



Sac and Fox Nation Social Services Field Dates

A member of the Social Services staff will be available to take applications on:

Wednesdays

9:00 am until 1:00 pm (approx.)

Location: The multi-purpose building at Shawnee LIHEAP, General Assistance, Emergency General Assistance, Direct Employment, Native Employment Works Programs, if funds are available.

Please call ahead to verify that someone is present.

405-275-1262

If you should need assistance prior to the scheduled dates, please call Social Services at:

1-800-259-3970

SAC AND FOX COMMUNITY

GONA

GATHERING OF NATIVE AMERICANS

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION & PLANNING EVENT

MAY 10-11, 2012

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM



Topics: Strategic Planning/Resources
Strategic Planning/Tools
Digital Story Telling
Empowerment Planning
Concept Mapping

Location: Sac and Fox Community Building
Contact: Clarissa Littlehead or Karen Simmons
918-968-9531 or 800-830-0683

COME JOIN THE FUN!

Call 918-968-0509 or 1-888-835-0435 for Information

JOM FUNDAY

JULY 12, 2012, 9AM TO 1 PM
SAC AND FOX NATION LEARNING CENTER AND GYM



REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:00 AM FOR AGES PRE-K THRU 12TH
PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION

GIVEAWAYS!! PRIZES!! GAMES!
ARTS AND CRAFTS!!!



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