



Don't Forget
RAP Council October 25



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Commemoration on Credit Island

by Sandra Massey NAGPRA

On August 30th the City of Davenport, Iowa, Davenport Parks and Recreation, and the Friends of Credit Island sponsored a commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Credit Island, part of the War of 1812.

The Battle of Credit Island took place on September 4-5, 1814 and was one of the last battles of the War of 1812. Native Americans, including a contingent of Sauk led by Black Hawk, allied with the British during the battle against the Americans, led by Major Zachary Taylor, future president of the United States.

After the battle and for through the rest of the war, the British and their Native American allies retained control of the Upper Mississippi River.

George Eaton, historian for the Rock Island Arsenal, contacted the Sac and Fox Nation in Oklahoma for more information if available and to extend the invitation to attend. Eaton wrote the narrative for the battle's activities based on eyewitness reports. He wrote the narrative from the perspectives of Black Hawk, Major Zachary Taylor, and Lt. Duncan Graham.

Giving voice to these historical persons during the commemorative event were Pres-

ton Duncan, Meskwaki (Black Hawk), George Eaton (Zachary Taylor), and Darren Lowe (Duncan Graham).

Sara James Childers, an historian and an associate of Montana and Associates, also helped in the planning of the event and contacted the descendants of Lt. Graham and Dakota leader Wabasha. Taylor's descendants could not be found in time for the event. She invited Meskwaki Preston Duncan to read the part of Sauk Black Hawk. She said, "I have been on the Mayor of Davenport and city planners to include the native history into their Master plan. Credit Island is the first project they have embraced."

Davenport Mayor Bill Gluba opened the event with a speech and, after the narratives, dedicated a memorial marker, which reads: "Dedicated on August 30, 2014 by the City of Davenport and its Citizens to commemorate the Battle that took place on and around Credit Island on September 4 and 5, 1814.

"This was the last battle for control of the Upper Mississippi River during the War of 1812.

"The battle involved American Regular and Militia Troops who fought a large Native force of several Tribes allied with the



L-R: Standing beside the new memorial marker at Credit Island are Davenport Mayor Bill Gluba, Rock Island Arsenal Historian George Eaton, Preston Duncan, and Darren Low. (photo by Sandra Massey)

British troops."

"The city planners have been working on the Battle of Credit Island since Fall 2012. In No-

vember or December of 2012, the city awarded a contract to Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group to do a battlefield

study," said Eaton. "That contract was funded by a grant from the American Battlefield Protec-

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Get out and VOTE

by Melissa Peros SFN Policy Analyst

Hello Sac and Fox Tribal Members. My name is Melissa Peros and I am your new Policy Analyst. This position is relatively new so I wanted to explain some of what I do. As a Policy Analyst for the Nation, I am responsible for review-

ing our policies and procedures for everything - from hunting licenses to personnel management. I am here to ensure we are doing right by all the laws we need to comply with but also to make sure that we are protecting the Sac and Fox Nation from any kind of harm. I am a licensed and practicing Attorney so it gives me a great edge in helping to make the Sac and Fox Nation secure in the future.



Melissa Peros

I also have the pleasure of being in charge of all the aspects of our participation in government issues. From testimony at congress, written responses to any congressional proposed rules that could affect our Nation, and updating the Sac and Fox community on all the legislating being proposed or enacted into law, I am always working to keep the Sac and Fox Leaders and Community up to date. In that vein, I would like to encourage everyone to head out to the Polls on November 4, 2014 and VOTE. I am sure you have heard for years that every vote makes a difference - they do. The American journalist George

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Chief's Address To The Nation

Greetings Members,

It has been a busy month for all of us here at the Sac and Fox Nation. I am pleased to get to update you on a number of issues which were brought to the forefront in September which have now been addressed or resolved.

TRIBAL GENERAL WELFARE ACT

First, I am pleased to announce that on September 26, the President signed H.R. 3043, the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act, after it passed rapidly through the House and the Senate. It is a victory for tribal governments, and a credit to so many tribal leaders who showed up in Washington DC and made their voices heard on Capitol Hill.

H.R. 3043 was sponsored in the House by Representative Devin Nunes (R-CA). The bill had 61 Co-Sponsors and I am proud to say that Oklahoma Representatives Tom Cole and Markwayne Mullin were two of them. Please thank the supporters of the legislation, particularly those in your home state or district. We are very apprecia-

tive to Representative Nunes for sponsoring this legislation and to all of the Members of Congress who supported it, unambiguously. It is a statement to the work of tribal leaders over the years that the Congress now implicitly recognizes the importance of tribal sovereignty and that tribal governments provide such important programs and services in Indian country.

Our Sac and Fox Nation submitted a letter to Senators encouraging their support of this bill which follows:

Dear Representative:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Sac and Fox Nation today to respectfully ask that you vote "Yes" on H.R. 3043, the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act, if the bill comes to the House floor for a vote in September.

Federal Indian affairs policy is grounded in the history and course of dealings between the U.S. and Indian tribes. Tribes ceded or had taken hundreds of millions of acres of our homelands to help build this Nation. In return, the U.S. made solemn promises to provide for the health, education, and general

welfare of Indian people. Sadly, federal programs and services designed to meet these promises have been unfunded or underfunded for decades. As a result, tribal governments are stepping in to meet these shortfalls by directly providing programs and services to our tribal citizens. Instead of fostering these acts of Indian self-determination, the IRS has targeted Indian tribes for audits, seeking to impose federal income taxes on tribal government programs and services.

Tribal leaders nationwide raised concerns with these targeted IRS intrusions of Indian self-determination. Rep. Devin Nunes responded to tribal leader concerns by introducing H.R. 3043. The bill now has 55 co-sponsors, including 15 members of the House Ways & Means Committee. Two of these co-sponsors are Oklahoma Representatives Tom Cole and Markwayne Mullin.

H.R. 3043 will implement long-needed reforms of the work of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in Indian Country. (Continued on Page 4)

Upcoming Events

October 8

Sac and Fox Elders Monthly Meeting Shawnee

October 4

Sac and Fox Nation Veterans Meeting Cultural Center

October 6

Sac and Fox Nation Womens Auxillary

October 2

10:00 am
RAP COUNCIL
Community Center

November 8

Veterans Day Gourd Dance
Community Center

December 8

Sac and Fox Elders Winter Dance
Community Center



Go Ahead Make My Day! The Sac and Fox Nation Rodeo was a great success. (SFNews Photo)

(SFNews Photo)