

Chief's Address To The Nation

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facility would be located (the "two-part" test). Public comment is sought and considered during this process, and local communities have several meaningful opportunities to provide input on a tribe's application for off-reservation gaming, as well as for the acquisition of land into trust on behalf of a tribe. Finally, the tribe must enter into a tribal-state gaming compact to govern the conduct of gaming at the proposed facility. Many states require gaming compacts to be approved by the state legislature.

In the twenty-three years since IGRA's enactment, only five tribes have gained approval to undertake off-reservation gaming. NEW GAMING SYSTEMS, INC. LAWSUIT

I am pleased to report to you that the Sac & Fox Nation Supreme Court has issued its opinion upholding the trial court's decision to dismiss all claims against the Nation and the Business Enterprise. The decision was filed on June 16, 2011. The Court once again finds that the equipment lease and promissory notes constituted a management agreement under IGRA, which had not been approved by the NIGC Chairman, and was thus void under federal law. It therefore concluded that the waiver of sovereign immunity within the agreements was also void and unenforceable, so the tribal courts had no jurisdiction over the Nation or Business Enterprise to hear any claims of NGS or grant it any relief.

Of course, NGS still has its federal lawsuit pending. With the issuance of this decision, the "stay" of that federal suit is now lifted. Crowe & Dunlevy will file an answer in the federal case next week. Since that is a review of a federal agency decision, the court's inquiry will most likely be limited to the record before the NIGC, and the deference the federal court decides to show to agency administrative discretion of the NIGC, along with the briefing of the parties on the legal issues (and the attached Order). In the federal case, NGS argues that the IGRA and NIGC regulations are unconstitutionally vague and therefore void.

While the Sac & Fox Nation Supreme

Court recognized the jurisdiction of a federal court to make such pronouncements, it noted in its Order that it did not agree with that argument. Crowe & Dunlevy have asked the Supreme Court to award the Nation and Business Enterprise its attorneys' fees, and that motion remains pending. Now that the Court has issued its decision, we will re-urge it to award fees against NGS -- and update their motion and submissions.

MISSOURI LAWSUIT

The lawsuit filed by the Sac and Fox Nation in a class action on behalf of all historic tribe of Missouri against the State of Missouri for violations to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) has been settled after nine years of litigation in federal court. The final settlement documents have been filed and await a final approval hearing scheduled for September 7, 2011. Details of the settlement will be forthcoming after the approval hearing. I can say, however, that this is a victory for the Sac and Fox Nation!

SHORT TAKES

*Informational Meeting. A reminder that I have issued a notice for an Informational Meeting to be held July 30th at the Capitol grounds gymnasium. This meeting is to educate, discuss, and help our tribal members. Lunch will be served. The agenda is as follows:

A. Discussing our investments with a report by Terry Weber of Investor Advocates.

B. Representatives to discuss what the Keeps Eagle settlement, in regards to discrimination by the USDA, might mean to our tribal membership.

C. BancFirst will present training or advice to tribal members concerning: (1) Wills & Trusts for Elders, (2) School programs to educate students on personal finances, (3) Budget training for homeowners or those looking to buy, including info regarding expense of taxes, insurance, maintenance expenses, etc., (4) Turning 18 - Options regarding the potential of large amounts of money they could be receiving, savings accounts, CDs, College Funds, etc.

*Construction. Construction of a swimming pool on our complex has started and is scheduled for completion on August 26th, 2011!

*Construction of a new outdoor basketball court on our pow-wow grounds began June 20th!

*Gun range on our complex located behind the Juvenile Detention Center nearing completion!

* 28 new pow-wow pavilions will be in place for this year's Sac and Fox Nation Celebration!

*Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Indian Community Development Block Grants (ICDBG) projects for a new lagoon system and Cultural Center have been assigned to staff to prepare for the start of these tasks this year.

PER CAPITA AND EDUCATION

YOU are responsible for the submission of the following:

* W-9 forms for the per-capita payment. Direct questions to: (918) 968-3526 ext. 1015.

* School clothing / school supply applications and application forms for higher education services. Inquiries are to be directed to: (918) 968-0509.

COMMUNICATION

Even before I took office as your Principal Chief, I proposed open communication and dialogue between the elected leadership and tribal members. I vowed to lead our Nation forward when I took my oath of office four years ago, and I want you moving in that direction with your elected leadership. I want your input as to where we are going and your support in reaching the goals that we set together. This is our vision together.

Phase one is open dialogue. I encourage tribal members to schedule appointments so that I can assure you of enough time to sit down and discuss your concerns with you. I can still spend time to visit with you even if you just drop in, but sometimes

other guests will be in my office discussing tribal matters, and you may have to wait. Important telephone calls come in daily and telephone messages need to be returned in addition to meetings with the local and national public, which can take up valuable time, so please try to schedule a visit before coming to the tribal complex.

I have fulfilled phase two of that commitment by communicating through my monthly Sac and Fox News article of matters that may affect you personally on the local, state, and national levels. This communication reaches membership within our jurisdiction, statewide, and nationally; so no matter where you reside, if you receive our newspaper, I am providing dialogue to you.

Now with the innovative planning and budgeting of our Information Technology Department (IT) consisting of Boyd Cummings and Mason Williamson, I have started with the month of July 2011 a verbal communication on our tribal website www.sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov. Let's call this phase three as I will share pertinent information that could affect you in Indian Country, again reaching membership all over the world. As long as you have access to our website then you will have dialogue with your roots here at home on our reservation.

Informational meetings will be phase four to communicate with our membership by reporting to you what plans our tribal government has for your future and to listen to your ideas and suggestions. This is developing a vision for our Sac and Fox Nation in which everyone shares - a vision that everyone working together will bring to fruition for the betterment of all our people. Aho!

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Sincerely,
George Thurman,
Principal Chief

MARJORIE AMA BLACK ROANE



**CANDIDATE FOR
COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**SAC AND FOX
NATION**

**GREETINGS TO ALL
TRIBAL MEMBERS**

I am running for the position of Committee Member of the Business Committee of the Sac and Fox Nation and I ask for your Vote.

I am a member of the Bear Clan. My name is Ke-to-thah, which means "Bear That Keeps Walking". My home is in Norman, Oklahoma, where my late husband, Sam, and I returned from Minneapolis, Minnesota in 2000. My son, Samuel, Jr., and my granddaughter, Iris, live in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

My father was Amos E. Black, Jr., who served as the second elected Principal Chief of the Sac and Fox Tribe until his death in 1954. My mother was Marie who lived among the Sac and Fox people most of her life. I am one of three children; my sister, Mary E. Black Osborn, who resides in Ponca City and my brother, Amos E. Black, III, Attorney-at-Law, who resides in Anadarko. I was raised on my great grandmother, Mary Gibbs, original allotment twelve miles north of Stroud on Highway #99.

I attended elementary school at Happy Valley and Cushing High School, Oklahoma State University and William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota. I am an attorney.

Because my father was Principal Chief of the Nation, I began attending Governing Council meetings at an early age. Although I lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota, I returned annually to Oklahoma in the summer to attend the Sac and Fox Pow-Wow and Governing Council.

I served as attorney for the first Sac and Fox Health Commission and have served on several committees for the Nation. These have included Education, Constitutional Revision, Election Ordinance Revision, and Gaming Committee. I am presently serving as Chairperson on the Sac and Fox Nation Chapel Construction Committee, which has brought a non-denominational Christian Chapel to the Nation.

While living in Minnesota, I became involved in many Native American activities with the local tribes and enjoy the continued friendship of many men and women in those northern tribes.

I believe that I can offer my thoughtful experience and time to the Nation and would certainly appreciate your Vote for the position of Committee Member.

Marjorie Ama Black Roane
Sac and Fox Nation Roll Number 1363

Remember to **VOTE**

**Polling Site
First Indian
Baptist Church
301 East Walnut
CUSHING,
OKLAHOMA
9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.**

**Sac and Fox Nation's
Rodeo Elite
Brothers of another kind
The Real Appeal - Rough Stock**



Greg and Cody Morris, Travis Nanaeto, Brad Fish, Curtis Washington, Eric Morrow and Friends.

