

NOMINEES TO THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Submitted to the State Leadership
by the Tennessee Native American Convention,
in compliance with Tennessee Public Chapter 344 (2003)

14 October 2003

Updated, with 2003 Convention Results
for West, Middle and East Tennessee

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**PUBLIC CHAPTER 344 (2003) PERTAINING TO
THE NOMINATION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS ' COMMISSIONERS
BY THE TENNESSEE NATIVE AMERICAN CONVENTION :**

SECTION 5.

(a) The Tennessee commission of Indian affairs shall consist of at least seven (7) members as follows:

- (1) One (1) member from each of the four (4) metropolitan areas: Shelby, Davidson, Knox and Hamilton, and counties contiguous thereto;
- (2) One (1) member from each of the three (3) grand divisions of the state; and
- (3) One (1) member from each Native American Indian nation or tribe located within Tennessee, and recognized by the state per recognition guidelines established by the commission.

(b)

- (1) The Tennessee Native American convention shall submit a list of not less than two (2) names for each position on the commission to be appointed.
- (2) Accompanying each nominee's name submitted shall be a résumé, including the nominee's educational background, work history, heritage, description of why the nominee would be a suitable commissioner and the democratic process and results that led to the nomination.
- (3) Preference in selection of at least five (5) Indian commissioners shall be given to Native American Indians, i.e., persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- (4) Each member of the commission of Indian affairs shall be a resident of Tennessee.

DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT LED TO THESE NOMINATIONS

1. The creation of an organization to develop and implement an election process from within the state Indian community: we created the Tennessee Native American Convention (TNNAC) and researched the caucus nominating process. developed a two-tiered system of local caucuses electing commissioner-nominees and delegates to a statewide convention where representatives from the statewide community would together determine its representation.
2. The 2001 TNNAC Caucuses were held on Saturday, 25 August, at 7pm Eastern/6pm Central, simultaneously in seven (7) locations around the state: Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, West TN/Pinson Mounds, Middle TN/Columbia and East TN/Madisonville, and were open to all Tennessee residents age 16 and older. Over 200 people attended the caucuses.
3. The 2001 TNNAC Convention was held Saturday, 22 September, at Old Stone Fort Park in Manchester. 100 caucus delegates chose from among the 27 commissioner-nominees and elected seven top Indian Commissioner nominees. The Convention also approved the “A Broader Commission” five-year, 10-committee plan for a new Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council to utilize the commissioner-nominees to help support the new Proposed Commission.
4. Several persons nominated in 2001 to the Commission of Indian Affairs have resigned their nomination, have moved, and/or are no longer in contact with TNNAC board. The TNNAC Board has made many efforts to contact all commissioner-nominees with information on how to finalize their informational contribution to the process. The résumés of nominees who have not responded to contact requests or who can no longer be found have been removed from this submission.
5. The 2003 TNNAC Caucuses were held on Saturday, 23 August, at 7pm Eastern/6pm Central, simultaneously in seven (7) locations around the state: Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Humboldt, Shelbyville and Kingsport, and were open to all Tennessee residents age 16 and older. Over 160 people attended the caucuses.
6. The 2003 TNNAC Convention was held Saturday, 27-28 September, at Pinson Mounds State Park in Pinson. 74 caucus delegates chose from among the 13 commissioner-nominees from West, Middle and East Tennessee, and elected three top Indian Commissioner nominees. The Convention also approved a motion to hold a TNNAC Conference on 27 March 2004 in Nashville to review TNNAC election policies.
7. Caucus voting was by written ballot. Convention voting was by secret ballot and voice.
8. No caucus or convention irregularities were reported and no complaints were received by TNNAC about the 2001 or 2003 nomination or election processes or the results.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND

Unless noted, each candidate states that s/he has never been convicted of a felony and has no other record that would reflect poorly on his/her ability to represent the State of Tennessee and the Native American Indian community.

ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE

TENNESSEE NATIVE AMERICAN CONVENTION

tom kunesh, At-Large/Chattanooga, chairman
Vicky Garland, Middle Tennessee, vice-chairman
Dale Mitchell, Nashville, secretary-treasurer
Floyd Ayers, Middle Tennessee
Edna Fay, Nashville
John Hedgecoth, Knoxville
Joe McCaleb, At-Large/Nashville
John Smith, Memphis
Sarah Cantrell, Humboldt

TNNAC officers contact information:

tom kunesh, box 1063, Chattanooga TN 37401, 423/ 624-3380, tpkunesh@chattanooga.net
Vicky Garland, 55 C.C. Road, Lawrenceburg TN 38464, 931/ 766-0827, vlg42@hotmail.com
Dale Mitchell, 4018-B Utah Avenue, Nashville TN 37209, 615/ 292-3643, sablesage@webtv.net

TNNAC website: www.tnnac.org

COMMISSIONER NOMINEES ' BY RANK AND INFORMATION STATUS AS VOTED BY THE

September 2001 Tennessee Native American Convention election, Old Stone Fort, Manchester,
(Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville), and
September 2003 Tennessee Native American Convention election, Pinson Mounds, Pinson
(West, Middle and East Tennessee).

MEMPHIS

1. Ruth Knight Allen
2. John Cornelius (no contact)
3. Cubert Bell Jr
4. Jack Phillips (no contact)

WEST TENNESSEE

1. Evangeline 'Van' Lynch
2. Donna Bivens
3. Virginia Ann Shields
4. Harold Dean Jackson Jr

NASHVILLE

1. Mike Mangrum
2. Sandi Perry
3. Pat Cummins (resigned)
4. Edna Fay

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

1. Jimmy Reedy
2. David Teat
3. Dale Mitchell
4. Anita Prevatte

CHATTANOOGA

1. John Anderson
2. Alva Crowe
3. Pat Girard (resigned)
4. tom kunesh

KNOXVILLE

1. Teri Ellenwood
2. John Hedgecoth
3. Tommy Veal
4. James Yellow Eagle (resigned)

EAST TENNESSEE

1. John Hedgecoth
2. Lee Vest
3. Kippy Lee Vaughn
4. Joice Fickenworth

COMMISSIONER -NOMINEES ' ATTENDANCE 2001-2003 at the meetings of the
Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council/proposed TN Commission of Indian Affairs

meeting 1: 10 November 2001,Lebanon
meeting 2: 9 February 2002,Jackson
meeting 3: 1 June 2002,Chattanooga
meeting 4: 14 September 2002,Knoxville
meeting 5: 7 December 2002,Nashville
meeting 6: 8 March 2003,Chattanooga
meeting 7: 7 June 2003,Knoxville

REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETINGS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
WEST TENNESSEE CAUCUS								
1.Evangeline 'Van' Lynch	x	x	x	x	x			5
2.Bonnie Redbird James		x						1
3.Teresa Horn								
4. John Lone Eagle								
MEMPHIS CAUCUS								
1.Ruth Knight Allen		x						1
2. John Cornelius								
3.Cubert Bell Jr					x	x		2
4.Jack Phillips								
MIDDLE TENNESSEE CAUCUS								
1.David Teat	x	x	x	x	x		x	6
2.Anita Prevatte	x							1
3.Ben Clough								
NASHVILLE CAUCUS								
1.Mike Mangrum	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
2.Sandi Perry		x			x	x	x	4
3.Pat Cummins								
4.Edna Fay			x					1
EAST TENNESSEE CAUCUS								
1.Trudy 'Morning Dove' Austin	x	x	x			x		4
2.Jason 'Growling Bear' Godsey				x				1
3.Craig 'White Raven' Fairall								
4.Jack 'Love Heart' Johnson								
CHATTANOOGA AREA CAUCUS								
1. John Anderson	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
2.Alva Crowe	x							1
3.Pat Girard	x		x	x	x	x		5
4.tom kunesh	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
KNOXVILLE AREA CAUCUS								
1.Teri Ellenwood	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	7
2. John Hedgecoth		x	x	x	x		x	5
3.Tommy Veal				x	x		x	3
4.James Yellow Eagle				x	x		x	3
27 nominees	10	11	10	11	12	8	9	

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
MEMPHIS

RUTH KNIGHT ALLEN

nominee from Memphis
1541 Welsh Road, Memphis TN 38117
901/ 685-8135 longwlker@aol.com

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

High School
Vocational emergency medical tech., national registry - ambulance and instructor EMTNR-A

WORK HISTORY

Girl Scout Council of the Mid-South, Memphis TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Mother - Choctaw, Father - Cherokee, Tenn. Roll number ###

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

Native American heritage information submitted. Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]

COMMUNITY

Founding member Far Away Cherokee Association/NAIA - Memphis
Founding member AIA - Millington, Kateri Tekakwitha Circle of the River
Memphis Pow Wow Association. (dormant)
Native American representative with Diocese of Memphis

- *Six years on the National Governors' Indian Council and secretary for the last two of those years.
- *Serve on the Delta Initiatives Steering Committee and responsible for "the Native American Heritage Route" chosen for the Delta initiatives.
- *Commissioner (Indian Position) on previous TCIA 1985-90, and secretary during that time. Responsible for drafting and finalizing the "Recognition Criteria of Native Americans in Tenn." over a six year period while on the TCIA.

STATEMENT

I believe I will add experience and knowledge to the new structure of the Commission. I listen and make myself available to those who need, but I also have strength when strength is needed. Those who have known of my involvements trust my judgement to stand up for the rights of the Native American people at home and elsewhere. It is also known that I have contacts and check out people and situations where there are questions on authenticity and or traditions. I am detail-oriented and know the need for accurate and timely records. I believe that communication among all of us is essential to the success of this venture.

[No other information submitted.]

CUBERT BELL JR

nominee from Memphis

1987 Indian Village Drive, Memphis TN 38109

901/ 789-2074, 901/ 785-3160

cbell2@memphis.edu

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1993 Raleigh Egypt High School
3970 Voltaire, Memphis, Tennessee

Southwest Tennessee Community College

WORK HISTORY

2001-*current* Office Assistant, Chucalissa Museum, University of Memphis
1987 Indian Village Drive, Memphis, Tennessee 38109

1994-2002 Checker/Sorter, Federal Express Corp
2903 Sprankel, Memphis, Tennessee 38118

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

I am a full blooded Choctaw Indian enrolled with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw.

[Qualifies for Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

I feel it is necessary for the younger generation to become involved in what is happening in our state. Furthermore, I feel it necessary not only to be involved but to become a member of decision making body that will address the short comings in our state in dealing with the Native American population and collectively making changes that will address the entire needs of each and every Native Americans in Tennessee.

COMMUNITY

Board Member, American Indian Affairs of Tennessee Henning, Tennessee

Head man dancer for the West Tennessee Indian Social Dancers

REFERENCES

Cubert Bell Sr	1987 Indian Village Drive, Memphis TN	901/ 785-7511
Hal Coulston		901/ 876-3900
Alice Henry	2811 Ravenwood Drive, Memphis TN	901/ 373-3885

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
WEST TENNESSEE

EVANGELINE 'VAN' LYNCH

nominee from West Tennessee
PO Box 408, Trimble TN 38259-0408
731/ 673-4360 vlynch@ycinet.net
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Cass Elementary School, Haskell Co. OK (dissolved)
1954 Stigler High School, Stigler OK
1958 BS: English; Bible & Religion
Bethel College, McKenzie TN
Certification in Special Education, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale IL
Certification in Elementary Education, University of Tennessee at Martin

WORK HISTORY

2000-current Retired.
1979-2000 Teacher, Resource English classes at Obion County Central High School,
Grades 9-12; American History, Gr. 11; (21 years)
Obion County Board of Education, Union City TN 38261
1978-79 Teacher, Resource classes, Grades 7 & 8, Junior High School, Burnet TX
1970-1978 Teacher, Resource classes, Grades 7 & 8, White County, Carmi IL
1967-1969 Teacher, English classes, Grades 7, 8 & 9, Junior High School, Arkoma OK

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Durant OK
[Qualifies for Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

Having served as a proposed commissioner nominee for the past several months, I am more aware of the responsibilities the position entails, and I believe I am better prepared for the job. I will continue my commitment to help reinstate the State Commission of Indian Affairs and to assure that the interests and concerns of Native Americans in TN are addressed. The past few months have proven that in spite of the great diversity of abilities and opinions among us, we can work together to achieve our goals. Great friendships have been forged, healthy working relationships have occurred, and much unity has been achieved, and I believe all three are necessary for any organization to be successful. I am encouraged and energized with the opportunity to have been of service and wish to continue to serve.

COMMUNITY

1975-1996 Church Women United, Inc., New York NY - served on National Board 3
different times. 2000-2004 state Vice President
supporting member, Native American Indian Association, Nashville TN
supporting member, Indigenous Women's Network, Austin TX
secretary-treasurer, TN Indian Affairs Advisory Council

REFERENCES

Sara J. Cantrell	77 Rolling Hills, Jackson TN 38305	731/ 668-9103; stawoda@aol.com
	Personal friend sharing a common interest in teaching.	
Sally Wells	106 Lakewood Circle, Smyrna TN 37167	615/ 459-3156
	Personal friend sharing a common Choctaw heritage.	
Donna Bivens	26 Farmwood Dr., Humboldt TN 38343	bivenswd@click1.net

DONNA BIVENS

nominee from West Tennessee
26 Farmwood Drive, Humboldt TN 38343
731/ 723-7956 bivenswd@click1.net
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 1965 Milan High School
 Milan TN
- 1982 Jackson State Community College, Jackson TN
 Associates Degree, *magna cum laude*,
 Allied Health Sciences / Medical Laboratory Technician

WORK HISTORY

- 1999-*present* Self-employed, Forever Flowers
 26 Farmwood Drive, Humboldt TN 38343
- 1982-92 Medical Laboratory Technician
 Jackson Madison County General Hospital, Jackson TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Member, Cherokee Tribe of NorthEast Alabama, Pinson, Alabama
[Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

In the time I have been associated with TNNAC, I have learned a lot about the vision that this organization has developed and I believe that it can...and will...be a great benefit to all the Tribal People in the state of Tennessee and possibly bring all the many groups together in a manner which has never been seen before. I would very much like to be a part of that. I am willing to place myself at the disposal of the People to help in any way that I can. I do not look on this position as a way to place myself "above" anyone, but rather as a way to be a servant...to help where I am needed and assist in any capacity that needs to be filled. I would deem it an honor to serve you.

COMMUNITY

I have been very active in the past with the Reelfoot Girl Scout Council. I have served as Day Camp Director for 3 years and as Camp Photographer and Arts and Crafts Counselor for Camp Hazelwood on the Kentucky Lake. I have also acted as Fund Raising Chairman for the Gibson County area. I have discontinued my involvement with any other organizations to devote most of my spare time to TNNAC. I have attended most of the meetings over the past year and have been at Legislative Plaza assisting our lobbying effort for several weeks during this year. I have also been spearpointing the efforts to get donations of money and materials for our convention in September at Pinson Mounds.

Member, the Native American Intertribal Association of Memphis (The Far-Away Cherokee)
Member, the Alliance for Native American Indian Rights

REFERENCES

Evangeline Lynch	Trimble TN	731-673-4360
John Smith	Memphis TN	901-743-0095
Judy Brake	Milan TN	731-686-7060 (work)

VIRGINIA ANN 'SNOW DOVE' SHIELDS

nominee from West Tennessee
180 Beech Lake Lane, Cedar Grove TN 38321
731-986-4867 puchann@charter.net
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1960-62 GED, Exeter, California

General Engineering Contractor, General Contractors School graduate
Sacramento, California

1994 International Union of the Operating Engineer
Oahu, Hawaii

WORK HISTORY

2002-present Owner, Snow Doves Trading Post
180 Beech Lake Lane, Cedar Grove TN

2001 Jailer, Carroll County Sheriff's Department
22855 Hwy 70, Huntingdon TN
(I continue as a reserve deputy for the Carroll Co. Sheriff's Dept.)

1992-94 Transportation manager, A.D.T., Aloha Auto Auction
Honolulu, Hawaii.

1981-92 Owner/Operator, Anne Mays Custom Cleaning
Sacramento, Calif.

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Shawnee and Cherokee.
*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
Does not request Native American Indian Preference.]*

STATEMENT

I feel i am suitable as commissioner because, I am a very honest and fair person. I can work well on local, state, and federal levels in getting resources for programs for indian citizens. Provide aid and prevent any undue hardships. Assist in social and economical development. To protect the rights of indians in their religion and culture. I will work with the needs of indians in Tennessee. I can work with officials of local, state, and federal government and agencies of the government. I will do all i can to meet the needs of indians in Tennessee. I will review all legislation and amendments to existing state legislation affecting indians in Tennessee. I will conduct public hearings on matters relating to indian affairs. I will do my best to help our people here in Tennessee.

COMMUNITY

Cherokee Wolf Clan, Yuma, Tennessee, member and also a council member.
I have helped raise funds for the needy, i have worked with our food drive, and helped the Cherokee Wolf Clan Church. I attend Cherokee lessons twice a week.

REFERENCES

Joe Walters	Yuma TN	731/ 986-9166
Tom Mcneeley	Lexington TN	731/ 967-0770
Mike McCarty	Huntingdon TN	731/ 986-3761

HAROLD DEAN JACKSON, JR.

nominee from West Tennessee
494 Graves Loop Road, Medina TN 38355
731-783-5189
single

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1982 graduate, Northside High School, Jackson TN

1983-4 University of Tennessee at Martin

WORK HISTORY

Presently unemployed due to plant closing

2002 Line handler (seasonal job), Dana Corp., Humboldt TN

1989-2002 Maintenance, 15 years, Murray Inc., Jackson TN (plant closed)

1983-1989 Cabinet shop, City Lumber Co, Jackson, TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Not specified.
*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
No Native American heritage information submitted to validate/verify Native American Indian Preference.]*

STATEMENT

First of all, I care deeply about Native Americans and I have an interest in helping the Indians in Tennessee to have their past history and contributions recognized. By being a commissioner, maybe this is a way I can help bring that about. I believe I have the time to devote to whatever the job requires. It has been good for me to meet and know many other Indians through Powwows and attending the meetings of the West Tennessee/Humboldt caucus and to learn all I can from them about all our combined heritage. We seem to all share the same concern that we need to help each other find our roots and work together.

COMMUNITY

Active in West Tennessee TNNAC Caucus meetings and Pinson Mounds' Convention.
Council member, Jackson Junior Chamber of Commerce.
President, Bachelor's Club, Jackson, involved in social service projects
Venture Hiking Club, Jackson
Green Belt Association, Jackson, working on environmental concerns

REFERENCES

Evangeline Lynch	Trimble TN	731-673-4360
Curtis Mansfield	Jackson TN	731-668-7049
David Wolfork	Jackson TN	731-423-6000

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
NASHVILLE

MICHAEL WAYNE MANGRUM

nominee from Nashville
PO Box 574, Dickson TN 37055
615/ 740-7954, 615/ 446-3900 meteloaf@aol.com
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Richland Elementary School
Bellevue Junior High School
Bellevue High School
Austin Peay

WORK HISTORY

Jackson Academy 222 Church St., Dickson TN 37055
Self
Self
Self
Self

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Grand Mother - Jessie Adams, Chickasaw. Her father's name was Kinhincha.

Date of birth and place not known.

I will show proof to whom ever appoints me.

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

No Native American heritage information submitted to validate/verify Indian Preference reportedly upon advice of candidate's legal counsel, but was provided to a TNNAC Board member who affirms the veracity of the documents.]

STATEMENT

I've been involved in the Indian scene for many years. For every cause I've been there for.

I am currently involved in setting up a program to help save youth in the Indian world.

I am a drummer and a singer and very spiritual and I believe in "right and wrong".

MILITARY

Yes. N/A

FELONIES

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REFERENCES

N/A
N/A
N/A

SANDI PERRY

nominee from Nashville
4817 Concord Drive, Hermitage TN 37076
Tdl 64064533 . 615/ 871-0940, 615/ 650-5381
lujah7@hotmail.com

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1960 Jay High School, Jay, Florida

1966 William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
B.A. Speech/Education

Troy State University, Troy, Alabama
M.S. Education/History

WORK HISTORY

1986-current Teacher, Metro/Nashville Public Schools
Nashville, Tennessee

1994-96 Adjunct Professor of History
Volunteer State Community College

1969-1984 Teacher, Santa Rosa County Public Schools
Milton, Florida

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Muscogee (Creek), Back Six Generations.

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

Native American heritage information submitted. Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

I believe,that being of mixed ancestry lends strength to my ability to serve as a commissioner. I have learned through years of living and working in the majority society to work within the system, and I feel that this can work as a positive in dealing with the government on the behalf of Indian people in this state. I have been very involved for over ten years in the Indian community in Tennessee. I presently serve on the board of the Alliance for Native American Indian Rights. I was present and involved in the beginning with TNNAC and am continuing to support the need for a voice for our concerns across this state. I have been active in the struggle to free Leonard Peltier for many years. I am a person of very strong convictions,and have a respected voice in the Indian community. I also believe that my background in education could be helpful in spearheading a move to include the real history of our people in the curriculum provided for the students in Tennessee. I know that the energy and dedication that I would bring to the commissioner position would be valuable.

COMMUNITY

Alliance For Native American Indian Rights, Board Member
Native American Education Association of Tennessee, Vice President
Phi Beta Kappa Educational Fraternity, Center For Teaching Tolerance
Leonard Peltier Defense Activities

REFERENCES

April Weller	Carter Lane, Leiper's Fork TN	615/ 791-1682
Pat Cummins	Presidential Trace, Hermitage TN 37076	615/ 874-1435
Melvin Smith	Brookview Estates, Nashville TN	615/ 642-2184

EDNA FAY

nominee from Nashville

661 Windellwood Circle, Smyrna TN 37167

615/ 355-0374 efay@usetinc.org

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 1958-66 Ripley Elementary School, Ripley TN
- 1966-70 Choctaw Central High School, Philadelphia MS
- 1992-97 Dyersburg State Community College (part-time classes), Dyersburg TN
- 1997-2001 Middle TN State University, Murfreesboro TN
Currently, seeking Associate's Degree in Elementary Education
and to continue for Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

WORK HISTORY

- 1999-Present United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET)
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Suite 100, Nashville TN 37214 615/ 872-7900
- 1998-99 Homeless No More, Case Manager,
grant under Native American Indian Association of Tennessee
- 1994-98 Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), Case Manager,
grant under Native American Indian Association of Tennessee
- 1991-94 Project Smoke Signal Bilingual Coordinator,
grant under Native American Indian Association of Tennessee

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

[Qualifies for Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

I offer the knowledge of working with Native American people in the state of Tennessee and other tribal areas. In my years of involvement with the Native Americans of Tennessee I heard the issues they have and I have felt there is some solutions to this. I knew I could not do it alone or one organizations cannot do it alone. Now, that we are coming together to work for our people I want to offer my skills of experience. Working with others and their skills, we can find solutions.

COMMUNITY

- 1986-current volunteer/staff, office manager, pow-wow co-ordinator and membership chair.
Native American Indian Association of Tennessee (NAIA), Nashville
- 1991-97 American Indian Association, Ripley TN, member, secretary and president
- 1995-97 Memphis PowWow Association, Registration chair and Board Member

REFERENCES

- Ray Emanuel, Executive Director, Native American Indian Association of TN
904 Shannon Lane, Franklin TN 37064, 615/ 790-0709, Co-Volunteer worker and friend
- The Honorable Beasley Denson, Vice Chief, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
PO Box 6010, Philadelphia MS 39350, 601/ 650-1635, Tribal Vice Chief and former classmate
- James T. Martin, Executive Director, United South and Eastern Tribe, Inc.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Ste. 100, Nashville TN 37214, 615/ 872-7900, Employer
- Beauton Matthews, Asst. Vice-President, Bank of Ripley
PO Box 269, Ripley TN 38063, 731/ 635-1230, Friend and co-worker, volunteer activities

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
MIDDLE TENNESSEE

JAMES 'JIMMY' CLAYTON REED Y

nominee from Middle Tennessee
3190 Petigap Road, McMinnville TN 37110
931/ 939-4007, 615/ 467-1513 rockinr@blomand.net
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1984 Springfield High School
Springfield TN 37172

1984-85 UTM University of Tennessee at Martin
Martin TN

WORK HISTORY

1992 - *current* Support Service Specialist, Indian Health Service
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Nashville TN 37214

1991 -1992 Crew Leader, Crown Coating Inc.
Portland TN

1986-1990 Job Foreman, Bridges Brothers Construction
Springfield TN 37172

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Oklahoma, Wind Clan
[Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

It is my belief that through this commission, Tennessee may once again become a crown jewel in the hearts and minds of the Native American people. All across this great state of ours, there are constant reminders of the contributions Native People have made to this land and to the people whom reside within her borders. The bounty of Tennessee has always been shared by Native Americans of many different tribes. The roots of our Native People in this state, run far deeper than that of the mighty oak, our pride soars high above the Great Smoky Mountains and all the waters of the mighty Mississippi River could never wash away the blood and tears we have shed for this land.

Our past is behind us, yet this is what makes up our culture and heritage, it should be protected for future generations of all people. Our present is a constant struggle, for justice and equality, to improve the standard of living for our families and to maintain our self respect and identity as Native People.

STATEMENT *(continued)*

What will the future hold for Native Americans in Tennessee? Pity for the past, nor sympathy for the present will lead us into the future of the 21st century. Prosperity for our Native American community must come from within our Native American Communities. I feel that the knowledge and experience I have gained working with Federal laws and Regulations concerning Native Americans, would enhance the Native Peoples voice within this state commission. I would like to see our people prosper and benefit from programs established in the field of health and education. The need to establish a report with other governments, Federal, State and Tribal is imperative. I feel that affordable housing and (JTPA) job placement programs are not impossibilities for Native Americans in this state. By working with each other and not against each other, the state, as well as the Native community, would contribute greatly to the tourism industry within our state, I believe this would strengthen as well as give credibility to the tourism industry in the state, which in turn, would benefit both parties. In closing I would simply like to say, I was born Indian and I'll die Indian, this land has always been home to Native People, our spirit, our songs and our voices can be heard through the land, not for myself, but for my family and my people, I am asking for the opportunity to carry that voice into the 21st century as your Middle Tennessee Commissioner. Mvto

COMMUNITY

- 1992-93 Native American Indian Association
Seat on the Board of Directors

- 1992-1994 Area Director NAIA PowWow

- 1998 Warren County Saddle Club
Vice President

- 2000-2001 Middle Tennessee Junior Rodeo Association
1999-2000 MTJRA President

- 1994-2002 Don Yahola Middle Tennessee PowWow
Arena Director

REFERENCES

Ron "Two Dogs" Williams	Chattanooga TN	423-595-4651
Rev. David Watson	McMinnville TN	931-473-7561
Capt. B. Kevin Molloy	Murfreesboro TN	615-896-7804 / 615-467-1504

DAVID LUTHER TEAT

nominee from Middle Tennessee

105 Arbor Crest Blvd., Antioch TN 37013

615/ 731-6642 (615/ 390-9290 mobile), 615/ 370-8500 ext. 442

dteat@bellsouth.net

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1965 Bellwood Elementary, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

1969 Smith County High, Carthage, Tennessee

1973-74 Averson Draughn School of Drafting, Huntsville, Alabama

1985 LUTCF Designation from the American College in Insurance products and marketing

1993-94 Jackson State Area Vocational Technical School, Jackson, Tennessee

WORK HISTORY

1998-current Architectural Detailer/Project Coordinator, Hart Freeland Roberts,
7101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 300, Brentwood TN 37024

1994-98 Architectural and Civil Detailer, Owens Engineering Co.
(now owned by H&M Construction Co.), 50 Security Drive, Jackson TN

1993-94 Architectural and Civil Detailer, Thomas, Ross, Stanfill, & Association.
Jackson TN

1981-92 Insurance Agent and Agency Manager
multiple insurance companies, Lebanon TN and Jackson TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Cherokee.

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

Native American heritage information submitted. Does not request Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

I do feel that there are more than a few people in the American Indian Community of Tennessee who are more qualified than me to serve as a Commissioner. However, if i am selected to serve as a Commissioner, i will give fair and honest representation to the American Indian Community of Tennessee. I believe in building good working relationships with the State Legislators and State Agencies to bring about balanced solutions to the special issues we all face in this State concerning American Indian issues such as ‘protecting burial sites and sacred/historical sites’, ‘social services’, ‘environmental issues’, and so on. I desire to see a climate of understanding, cooperation, and respect develop with in the American Indian Community of this State. I long to see fair representation for and recognition of ‘all’ of the American Indian peoples living in this State. I also want to see the ‘True History’ of Americas ‘Indians’ taught in all of our schools in this State. If selected, i will work to help bring these things about.

COMMUNITY

Vice Chairman, Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council

Founding member, Tennessee Native American Convention

REFERENCES

Floyd Ayers Winchester TN 931/ 967-9275

Grady Jones Lyles TN 931/ 670-5465

Thomas Dodd Brentwood TN 615/ 370-1255

BARNEY DALE MITCHELL

nominee from Middle Tennessee
4018-B Utah Avenue, Nashville TN 37209
615/ 292-3643 sablesage@webtv.net

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1973 Andalusia High School, Andalusia AL

1974-75 Lurleen B. Wallace State Junior College, Andalusia AL – art, music & creative writing.

1977 Alabama Christian College (Faulkner University), Montgomery - Bible & photography

WORK HISTORY

2001 - *present* Office Manager & Corporate Secretary, E.S.S., Inc.
109 17th Avenue South, Nashville TN 37203

2000-2002 Store Manager, Great Earth Vitamins
1800 Galleria Blvd., Franklin TN 37067

2000-2001 Opening Shift Supervisor, Maggie Moo's
Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin TN 37064

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Cherokees of Southeast Alabama, Dothan AL, a state-recognized tribe.
[Does not request Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

First off, let me say that I believe there are others out there who are more qualified than myself, and I am glad to know that a couple of those – David Teat and Jimmy Reedy – are also seeking nomination from the Middle Tennessee Caucus. I think either of these gentlemen would make an excellent Commissioner, and I hope that you will consider them before you consider me.

I have worked hard the last few years with a very special and broad-based group of people to help bring about the birth of TNNAC and the Advisory council, and the re-birth of the TCIA; not just in the sessions where the ideas and ideals were hammered out, but also in the the lobbying before our legislature.

I will continue to work toward improving the status of the Native americans in this state.

COMMUNITY

Member, Alliance for Native American Indian Rights of Tennessee, Hermitage TN

Member, Harpeth River Watershed Association, Franklin TN

Former Chairman of the Red Stick Confederacy, a now defunct organization that was dedicated to the preservation of Native American sacred & cultural sites.

Active in the "brainstorming sessions" that culminated in the formation of TNNAC & the Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council, and was an active lobbyist for both the Indian Affairs bills that were passed by the legislature in the past two years.

REFERENCES

Robin Lockwood Franklin TN 37064 615/ 794-3507
Ann E. Braun Franklin TN 37064 615/ 591-7628 h, 615/ 259-3671 w
Patrick Cummins Nashville TN 37076 615/ 874-1435

ANITA RENEE PREVATTE

nominee from Middle Tennessee
133 Bel Aire Drive, Winchester TN 37398
931/ 968-0746, 931/ 962-0657
arprevatte@yahoo.com

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Rhea Central Jr. High School, Dayton TN
Franklin County High School, Winchester TN 37398

1995 Associate of Science, emphasis in communication
Motlow State Community College, Tullahoma TN

2000 Bachelor of Science, Major in Public Relations
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro

WORK HISTORY

1999-current Realtor
Forest Hills Realty Company, Nashville TN

2002 Home County Case Manager
State of Tennessee- Children's Services, Winchester TN.

1997-99 Computer Lab Tech
MTSU-(LRC student Worker), Murfreesboro TN

1995-97 Owner
Creative Carousel Floral and Balloons, Winchester TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

My Father is a member of the Lumbee Tribe in North Carolina.
He was born in Mulberry Co. S.C. 7-22-1939. Enrollment # ###,### Chart # #####
*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
Native American heritage information submitted. Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]*

COMMUNITY

Member, Cowan Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Member, Native American Indian Association of Tennessee (NAIA)
Member, Tennessee Trail of Tears Association

REFERENCES

Jane Turner	Realtor/Tax Preparer/Small Business Owner	615/ 547-7164
Cathy Holly	Teacher/Artist	931/ 967-1193
Debbie Shaver	Small Business Owner/Print Maker	423/ 775-0102

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STATEMENT

I feel very blessed to have my Native American heritage. My heritage, education and diverse experience would be an asset to the Native People of Tennessee. Because of my native background, I understand the concerns within the daily lives of Native People of Tennessee. I also comprehend and agree with many issues that are of concern to Native American, Environmental and Historical groups within Tennessee.

I would work to be very fair to all groups of Native People. I feel the Native American Community has a diverse group of people each who have different histories and different claims to the Native American birthright; however I think these differences are a positive thing. Every person brings something unique to the Native American community but at the same time the shared goal of interest in Native American concerns is a part of each individual. This is good. Name calling, infighting and feuding is self-destructive to all Native American concerns. Respect for each individual's perspective is important for Native Americans of Tennessee. A Tennessee Native American Commission could be a unifying factor for Native People and Groups within Tennessee

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
KNOXVILLE

TERI LEE RHOADES -ELLENWOOD

nominee from Knoxville
P.O. Box 70566, Knoxville TN 37938
865/ 992-2821, 865/ 765-2788
sinihele@bellsouth.net

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1983 Bearden High School, Gallaher View Road, Knoxville TN

Bachelor of Arts with Honors. Sociology with a Concentration in Criminal Justice.
University of Tennessee, Knoxville TN
GPA: 3.37/4.00 Major: 3.90/4.00. Golden Key National Honor Society.

1994 Juris Doctor, Law
University of Tennessee College of Law, Knoxville TN

WORK HISTORY

- 2002-*current* New Traditions by Teri, Luttrell TN Jewelry Designer -Owned and operated small business 1985-1992, restarted business on a small scale.
- 1998-*current* Pro-Bono Legal Advisor. Assist persons of Native American descent with legal issues and retaining counsel. Bankruptcy, employment law, credit, contract, legislative research and writing. At present I *only* do legal referrals, *i.e.* I assist people in finding an attorney.
- 1997 Staff Attorney, Appalachian Research & Defense Fund of Kentucky, Prestonsburg KY. Practiced divorce, credit, housing, custody, bankruptcy, and contract law.
- 1995-97 Attorney, Harrisburg PA. Part-time private practice writing wills and trusts and handling contract collections.
- 1995-96 Project Director, Pennsylvania Association of Native American Indians, Harrisburg PA. Research and write grants, legal and political memoranda, and briefs on Native American issues. Perform all administrative functions for a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Successfully lobbied Governor Ridge to declare Native American Day.
- 1995-96 Director of Legislative Research, The McFarren Group, Harrisburg PA. Research and write legal/political memoranda and briefs. Work with various legislative and administrative leaders. Monitor the Public Utility Commission and the Department of Environmental Resources.

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah OK 74465
[Qualifies for Indian Preference.]

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STATEMENT

First, I must state what I don't have to offer. I have not been a choice maker before. I have merely helped people make decisions. I have not lived in Tennessee all of my life but 13 out of the last 18 years on and off. I have not been politically active here. If I was chosen to be a Commissioner I would accept: because, I believe that Creator had me acquire the knowledge that I have so that I can be Creator's instrument to assist Native People.

I would hope that my experience in organizing and working for a private commission would help the Tennessee Commission to move through political waters easier by benefitting from my mistakes and successes. I would also hope that my experience in trying to help different Indian peoples see each others side of an issue would help calm some of the disagreements within our communities. We can only pray for understanding and try to openly discuss the issues. We all must listen to each other, really hear what the other has to say.

I would like to help reshape the legal structure of the Commission. I would like to see better more substantive legislation written. I would gladly utilize my experience in writing similar legislation to correct some legal points and to assist the Commission in redrafting some sections of the pending legislation.

Personally, I've lived as a non-reservation Indian, urban Indian, on reservation, and in Indian territory (Oklahoma) and have seen some of the different issues that affect different Natives in different areas. I by no means am an expert on all walks of Indian life, I can only speak from personal experiences on some issues.

COMMUNITY

1996 Rides to Free Peltier. Media Director and Assistant Coordinator, American Indian Movement: Ride to Free Leonard Peltier. Assist, Director and Coordinator, David Hill in all phases of the ride as well as actual participation. Duties included writing and issuing press releases, coordinating travel, funds, lodging, food, and explaining the legal issues surrounding Mr. Peltier's case during interviews.

2001-2003 "Proposed" Tennessee Commission of Indian Affairs, Chairperson/commissioner

2001-current Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council, member, Co-Chair -2003

2002-03 Native American Rights Fund, Boulder CO, member

1991-current Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity

May 1995 Admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar

1995-current Pennsylvania Bar Association, (Harrisburg PA) Member

1996-97 Pennsylvania Minority Bar Committee

1996-97 Pennsylvania Civil and Equal Rights Committee

1988-92 Founder and Board Member, Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (OREPA), Knoxville TN. Now the Center for Global Sustainability. A multi-group task force which addresses environmental problems caused by the nuclear industry. Organized Hiroshima Day at the Y-12 nuclear plant at Oak Ridge TN. Worked for a positive social change by focusing on economic conversion. Handled public relations with various journalists, politicians, and speaking engagements throughout the country. Assisted with fund raising and membership.

REFERENCES

Frank Sparrow	21 South Second Street, Wormleysburg PA 17043 717/ 763-8304 (H), 717/ 233-7844 (W)
Linda Waggoner	13611 Brandy Oak Dr., Chesterfield VA 23832 804/ 739-4632 (H), 804/ 539-5422 (C)
Melissa Ashburn/Lawless	1424 Timbergrove Drive Knoxville TN 37919 865/ 692-1903

JOHN WRIGHT HEDGECOTH

nominee from Knoxville
448 Deep Water Road, Crossville TN 38571
931/ 277-5452
yonausdi@earthlink.net, tnvs@earthlink.net

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Tecumseh High School, New Carlisle, Ohio
1973 GED from Thomas Moore College, Covington KY
1983 diploma in Welding Technology
Tennessee Technology Center, Crossville TN
1997 diploma in CAD Drafting
Tennessee Technology Center, Crossville TN

WORK HISTORY

Unable to work due to fibromyalgia, osteoarthritis, severe recurring depression. Currently receiving Veterans Disability Compensation Pension. I've had many jobs over the years, some were temporary in nature and others were lost due to problems I was having with alcohol and depression. I offer no excuses here only reasons. I have listed the jobs that represent the varied work experience that I've had.

1998-98 Design Engineer, United Trailer, Nashville TN
1994-96 Welder, Baron LLC, Cookeville TN
Welder, General Processing(now Manchester Tank), Crossville TN
1981-83 Radio personality, WAEW Radio, Crossville TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
Native American heritage information submitted. Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]*

STATEMENT

I wrote the following on the first nomination form that I was asked to complete for the 2001 Knoxville Caucus. After having served in various positions over the last 1-1/2 years-with a couple of up-dates-I find it still holds true.

"To be called upon to represent a people brings about a mixture of thoughts and emotions. There are the feelings that come with the nomination: honor, pride, and excitement. Then the reality of the responsibilities of the position sink in and those emotions stand out in stark contrast. There is the travel, the time away from family & expense. In studying the emotional highs and lows, I find balance. Balance in the travelling to meet with you, to talk and find out what concerns you have that I can bring before the full commission. Balance in the expense to bring these concerns to the attentions of those who are able to do something to affect change. The first duty of a warrior is to serve the people and to be able to serve makes all worth while. I've seen times of plenty and then there have been some very lean times as well. I have eight children so diplomacy and tact are terms with which I'm familiar. I've been a laborer and I've worked in the front offices as a design engineer, and I've felt blessed with any position I've held. I guess what I'm trying to say is that I've seen life from many sides and I have a unique perspective in that I can see things as they are and not from a one-sided angle."

Many in the Indian Community have had the opportunity to get to know me and the other candidates over the last 2 years and I feel they are quite capable of making an informed decision on who would best represent them. John Hedgecoth

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MILITARY

Aviation Storekeeper, U.S. Navy
Alameda NAS, Alameda CA
Honorable Discharge

COMMUNITY

Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council, board member
Tennessee Native American Convention, board member and delegate
Tennessee Indian Affairs Commission, Commissioner nominee
Tennessee Native Veterans Society, president, co-founder & CEO
Native American Circle, volunteer, Southeastern TN State Regional Correctional Facility

REFERENCES

Cyndi Cook	2029 Clarence Gillen Road, Sparta TN 38583	931/ 739-2029
Michelle Britt	2981 Liberty Road, Winchester TN 37398	931/ 967-8802
Tommy Veal	375 Stephens Lane, Livingston TN 38570	931/ 544-4908

TOMMY RAY VEAL

nominee from Knoxville
375 Stephens Lane, Livingston TN 38570
931/ 544-4908 after 7pm
tommyspottedcalf@hotmail.com

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Elementary School, Bay Lake FL

WORK HISTORY

1998-2002 Self-employed bulldozer operator, Cameron Bates

1990-1998 dozer operator, Wildcat Gold Mining

1975-1990 owner/operator, K&T Oil Company

1970-1975 farmer/self/employed

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Cherokee, Tom Joseph Veal/father Miller Roll #####, Sarah Veal/paternal grandmother Miller Roll #####

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

No Native American heritage information submitted to validate/verify Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

Although I feel I'd be better qualified to stay on the Advisory Board, I feel it's very important that a good, strong, honest person needs to be appointed from the seven areas (and in my particular case the Plateau area) to give a voice to the Indian issues.

MILITARY

1960-62 U.S. Army, "Land Security Special Forces", Honorable Discharge

COMMUNITY

Indigenous Intertribal Corp., President
Tennessee Native Veterans Society

REFERENCES

Cameron Bates	Overton County Constable	931-397-3134
Bud Swallows	Overton County Sheriff	931-823-5635
Pamela Pry	friend	931-277-5452

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
CHATTANOOGA

JOHN WAYNE ANDERSON

nominee from Chattanooga

2627 Hixson Pike, Chattanooga TN 37405

423/ 266-6972, 423/ 265-5708 ext. 3321

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 1978 Niagara Falls High School, Niagara Falls NY
GED exam, Helen Hayes Rehabilitation Hospital, West Haverstraw NY
- current* Completed 138 credit hours, Criminal Justice/Sociology
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

WORK HISTORY

- 2002-*current* Counselor, Homeless Health Care, 717 E. 11th Street, Chattanooga TN
- 1996-2002 Substance Abuse Counselor, Council for Drug Abuse & Drug Abuse Services
207 Spears Avenue, Chattanooga TN
- 1989-1996 Assistant Director, Dismas House, Inc., 510 South Willow, Chattanooga TN
- 1988-89 Counselor, Metropolitan Hospital, Chattanooga TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Tuscarora, Six Nations/Iroquois Confederacy, New York/Canada.

[Qualifies for Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

I have been actively involved in the local Indian community for years and recognize the need for more inclusion in the representation presently available. I have demonstrated an ability to be flexible, adaptable, patient, idealist and accountable with high-risk populations. I am very familiar with providing *the* minority viewpoint.

COMMUNITY

- 1999-*current* Co-founder & Board President, Chattanooga Indigenous Resource Center & Library
- 1993-*current* Founder/past President, Chattanooga InterTribal Association

REFERENCES

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Susan Parks | 611 Barton Avenue, Chattanooga TN | 423/ 266-6732 |
| Vicky Karhu | 1730 Dayton Blvd., Chattanooga TN | 423/ 756-4555 |
| Bill Swanie | 717 East 11th Street, Chattanooga TN | 423/ 265-5708 |

ALVA CROWE

nominee from Chattanooga
1155 McDonald Drive, Chattanooga TN 37421
423/ 892.6346

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Finished 2 years of college
Bacone Jr. College, Muskogee OK

WORK HISTORY

retired ironworker

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Enrolled member, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Cherokee NC
[Qualifies for Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

A new Beginning.

COMMUNITY

Tennessee Trail of Tears Association
Catoosa Historical Society
Cultural Liaison with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians for SE Tennessee

REFERENCES

THOMAS PETER KUNESH

nominee from Chattanooga
box 1063, Chattanooga TN 37401
423/ 624-3380 tpkunesh@chattanooga.net

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1974 Cathedral High School, St Cloud MN
1980 Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
1983 BA Spanish, minor in Foreign Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
1988 MDiv, Starr King School for the Ministry, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley CA
1990 MA Religious Studies, minor in Art History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

WORK HISTORY

2003 Executive Director, Chattanooga Indigenous Resource Center & Library (CIRCL)
2002-current Spanish instructor, Brach's Confections, Inc., Chattanooga TN
Spanish instructor, Montessori World of Children, Chattanooga TN
2000-2002 Spanish instructor, Language Lab Director, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
2000-current adjunct instructor, Native American Religions, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Chattanooga State Technical Community College
1996-1999 webmaster, Chattanooga Online

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Hunkpapa & Blackfoot Lakota, mother is an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

Native American heritage information submitted. Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

As a local activist i can offer the Native American people eight years of activist experience at the local, regional and state levels, the same dedication i've committed to the Chattanooga InterTribal Association, saving Moccasin Bend, saving Little Cedar Mountain, and in being a principal organizer – along with many others – of the Tennessee Native American Convention and these caucuses. I am committed to improving communication with NAs & organizations across the state. I am committed to saving NA cultural sites from development. I am committed to state recognition of tribes, especially the historical tribes that occupied this land and were “removed.” And i am committed to working with federally-recognized tribes and USET to improve communication with NA people & organizations in Tennessee.

MILITARY

1976-80 US Navy, Russian & Farsi linguist, Radio Traffic Analyst, Cryptographic Technician - Interpretive Branch (CTI), Third Class Petty Officer (PO3), Honorable Discharge
primary duty station: Naval Security Group Detachment, Rota Naval Base, Spain;
deployed TDY on surface ships in the Persian Gulf & Indian Ocean.

COMMUNITY

1993-current member, Chattanooga InterTribal Association
2001-current chairman, Tennessee Native American Convention
2002-current chairman, Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council
2002- Native American Circle, volunteer, Southeastern TN State Regional Correctional Facility

REFERENCES

John Anderson	chairman, CIRCL	423/ 234-5678
Nick Honerkamp	chairman, Dept. of Anthropology, UTC	423/ 755-4325
Oralia Preble-Niemi	chairman, Dept. of Foreign Languages, UTC	423/ 425-4114

TENNESSEE COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NOMINEES FOR
EAST TENNESSEE

JOHN WRIGHT HEDGECOTH

nominee from East Tennessee
448 Deep Water Road, Crossville TN 38571
931/ 277-5452
yonausdi@earthlink.net, tnvs@earthlink.net

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Tecumseh High School, New Carlisle, Ohio
- 1973 GED from Thomas Moore College, Covington KY
- 1983 diploma in Welding Technology, certified combination welder
Tennessee Technology Center, Crossville TN
- 1997 diploma in CAD Drafting
Tennessee Technology Center, Crossville TN

WORK HISTORY

Unable to work due to fibromyalgia, osteoarthritis, severe recurring depression. Currently receiving Veterans Disability Compensation Pension. I've had many jobs over the years, some were temporary in nature and others were lost due to problems I was having with alcohol and depression. I offer no excuses here only reasons. I have listed the jobs that represent the varied work experience that I've had.

- 1998-98 Design Engineer, United Trailer, Nashville TN
- 1994-96 High-vacuum systems welder, Baron LLC, Cookeville TN
Welder/heat treat supervisor, General Processing(Manchester Tank), Crossville TN
- 1981-83 On-air radio personality, WAEW/WXVL Radio, Crossville TN

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Cherokee

[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.

Native American heritage information submitted. Qualifies for Native American Indian Preference.]

STATEMENT

I've been involved in the Tennessee Indian Community in many ways over the last two and a half years and I've seen The TN Native American Convention grow as more and more good people become involved. It is this experience that I can bring along with being accessible and willing to listen. I've been a member of the Advisory Council for the Knoxville Caucus for two years. I feel I could better represent East TN as a whole rather than the Knoxville Metro area from which I am geographically removed. Whomever fills the Commission seats need to remember that they are there because their time and talents are needed by ALL of the Indian Community. If someone seeks the position to further their careers or the interests of a few groups then they should look for a position elsewhere. The People of this State deserve someone who will work to find solutions to the issues that have been largely ignored in the past. Issues such as affordable, local health care and more awareness by the caregivers of our physical and Spiritual needs. Issues such as grave desecration and looting. Whomever fills the Commission seats also need to remember that communication in the Indian Community is a MAJOR problem and ways need to be explored to be better able to communicate with constituents and to remember that communication implies TWO-WAY dialog. Whomever fills the Commission seats need to remember that most conflicts can be resolved with diplomacy and tact and should have both in abundance along with patience and understanding while simultaneously remembering that there will be conflicts where diplomacy and tact are of no use and be willing to act accordingly to do what is right and just.

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MILITARY

1973-74 U.S. Navy, Aviation Storekeeper, E2
Millington NAS, Millington TN, and Alameda NAS, Alameda CA
Honorable Discharge

COMMUNITY

Tennessee Native Veterans Society-President/co-founder/CEO - currently involved with staff at Murfreesboro VA Med Center to implement a Sweat Lodge program and Native American Spiritual Center Was instrumental in having Native Community invited to traditionally honor Veterans at Nashville National Cemetery. Currently have a clothes closet and food pantry to help Indian Vet families in need. Instituting blanket drive to issue to homeless (Vets or not) in Sept. Will be participating in Operation Stand Down of Nashville in October 2001-present.

Tennessee Indian Affairs Advisory Council, board member

Tennessee Native American Convention, board member and delegate

Tennessee Indian Affairs Commission, Commissioner nominee

Have been present at all but one meeting of TNNAC, TNCIA and TNIAAC.

Native American Circle, volunteer, Southeastern TN State Regional Correctional Facility

Maintained a website since 12/01 providing Indian news, history and a message board for posting events and discussion of issues: *groups.msn.com/TennesseeIndianAffairs*

Member, Medicine River Singers

REFERENCES

William Owensby, Director, National Cemetery, Nashville TN 615/ 736-2839

Addie Woods, Program Analyst, AC York VA Medical Center, Murfreesboro TN 615/ 867-6134

Hawk James, lead, Medicine River Singers, Henderson TN 731/ 608-1627 mobile
731/ 989-1930 home

LEE VEST

nominee from East Tennessee
437 N. Valley View Circle, Kingsport TN 37664
423/ 323-0327
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1960 graduate, Lord Botetourt High School, Daleville VA

1960-62 Attended Virginia Western College, Roanoke VA

WORK HISTORY

1992-present Therapeutic Foster Care, Traces, a division of Frontier Health
2001 Stonebrook Place, Kingsport TN 37660

1980-99 Owner, Landscape Design, Mountain Magic Landscape
437 N. Valley View Circle, Kingsport TN 37664

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Monacan, Pamunkey, Lakota
*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
Does not request Native American Indian Preference.]*

MILITARY

1960-64 US Marines CPL/E-4, Headquarters, Service Battalion
Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, Norfolk VA

STATEMENT

I will be a suitable Commissioner because of my involvement in Native American Affairs. I have spent my entire life working to make Non-Indians aware of Our place in Society, Our needs and Our ability to contribute to the good of America. I have been a guest speaker at over 125 Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. I have shared Our Culture, Our Native Religion, and dispelled negative beliefs about Our People. I work hard in my Indian Community to keep Our Heritage alive. Should I be selected to serve, I will represent the People fairly and effectively.

COMMUNITY

1973-77 National Congress of American Indians, Washington DC
1974-77 Member, Akwesasne Notes, Mohawk Nation, New York
American Indian Press Association

Council Member, Appalachian Intertribal Heritage Association
2788 Pinehurst Street, Appalachia VA 24216
also Heritage Teacher, Elder, Woodland Indian Survival Teacher.

REFERENCES

Donna Davis	Church Hill TN	423/ 357-5596
Linda Jones	Kingsport TN	423/ 246-7792
Bill Potts	Blountville TN	423/ 323-6631, 423/ 323-6898

KIPPY LEE FLANDERS VAUGHN

nominee from East Tennessee
522 West Wheeler Street, Rockwood TN 37854
865/ 354-0398
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1981 Minot High School, Minot, North Dakota

1996 Corrections, Tennessee Correctional Academy

WORK HISTORY

2003 - *current* Counselor/Security, Camelot Schools, Kingston, Tennessee

1999-2003 Food Steward 2, Department of Children Services Westview Center
State of Tennessee, 3720 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville TN

1996-98 Food Steward 1, Brushy Mountain Correctional Complex
9182 Petros Hwy, Petros, Tenn

1996 Food Steward 1, Morgan County Regional Correction Facility
500 Flat Fork Road, Wartburg, Tenn

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Cherokee and Creek
*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
Does not request Native American Indian Preference.]*

STATEMENT

I feel that in being a Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the State of Tennessee, I could assist others whom like myself are trying to keep alive the heritage that my Grandfather imparted to me. In this way I also would be able to keep alive my Grandfather's memory. I also could help others to learn the ways of The Indian, and assist the ones that have fallen by the wayside, with programs that the Federal Government has available to Native Americans. And hopefully during my time in office The Department of Indian Affairs could develop programs within the State to also assist Native American Indians.

COMMUNITY

Member, Cherokee Wolf Clan, Yuma TN

REFERENCES

Larry Fickenworth	Rockwood TN	865/ 354-1196
Sen. Tommy Kilby	Nashville TN	615/ 741-1449
Rep. Dennis Ferguson	Harriman TN	865/ 882-5930, 615/ 741-7658

JOICE ANN 'SERIOUS EAGLE' GRIFFIN FICKENWORTH

nominee from East Tennessee
106 Plemons Road, Rockwood TN 37854
865/ 354-1196
married

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ocala Jr High, Ocala Florida

1980 GED Minot ND

WORK HISTORY

1990-91 Dental, Department of Corrections-MCRCF, Wartburg TN
1986-94 Dental Technician, PO3 class
US Navy Reserve, Knoxville TN
1983-84 Dental training, US Air Force, Dyess AFB, Albene, Texas

HERITAGE / NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

Cherokee and Creek
*[Not a member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe.
Does not request Native American Indian Preference.]*

MILITARY

1986-94 PO3, US Navy, Jacks NAS

STATEMENT

Due to the fact that I have traveled so much in the United States and have come in contact with so many Native American People and have seen the hardships they have had to face. I feel I would make a good Commissioner. Because of this fact I think I could and would work harder for the peoples rights and needs. Also because of the fact that I am both white and Indian I feel I can see both sides of each race. Also I think I could show a more Positive Impression of our people. Were most people have the wrong idea about the Native American about who and what they are really about.

COMMUNITY

REFERENCES

Sen. Tommy Kilby	Nashville TN	615/ 741-1449
Rep. Dennis Ferguson	Harriman TN	865/ 882-5930, 615/ 741-7658
Calvin Trew	Rockwood TN	865/ 354-2072

TENNESSEE NATIVE AMERICAN CONVENTION • TNNAC

box 1063 • Chattanooga TN 37401

30 June 2003

Dear Indian Affairs' Commissioner-Nominee,

Per Chapter No. 344, Public Acts 2003, Section 5.(b), the Tennessee Native American Convention (TNNAC) is preparing the résumés of all commissioner-nominees for submission to the state's Speakers of the House and Senate and Governor for appointment of seven nominees to the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Attached is a copy of your personal nominee résumé, as proposed to be submitted by TNNAC, with all proposed TNNAC notations. You have ten (10) calendar days in which to correct your personal information, and to submit any and all validating information regarding Native American heritage, residency, or other TNNAC notations, to TNNAC. Please return this résumé with any correction and validating material as soon as possible to TNNAC, box 1063, Chattanooga TN 37401.

If no response is received by TNNAC from you within fifteen (15) days of the postmarked date of this letter, TNNAC shall submit this résumé as is, with no changes. TNNAC would like to submit all commissioner-nominee materials to the state on or before 21 July, so the earlier you send it back, the better.

Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

On behalf of the TNNAC board,

Joe McCaleb
TNNAC Board member

Floyd Ayers
TNNAC Board member

Tennessee Legislature, Chapter No. 344, PUBLIC ACTS, 2003
SECTION 5.(b)

- (1) The Tennessee Native American convention shall submit a list of not less than two (2) names for each position on the commission to be appointed.
- (2) Accompanying each nominee's name submitted shall be a resume, including the nominee's educational background, work history, heritage, description of why the nominee would be a suitable commissioner and the democratic process and results that led to the nomination.
- (3) Preference in selection of at least five (5) Indian commissioners shall be given to Native American Indians, i.e., persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- (4) Each member of the commission of Indian affairs shall be a resident of Tennessee.

TENNESSEE NATIVE AMERICAN CONVENTION • TNNAC

box 1063 • Chattanooga TN 37401

5 October 2003

Dear Indian Affairs' Commissioner-Nominee,

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Attached is a copy of your personal nominee résumé, as proposed to be submitted by TNNAC, with all proposed TNNAC notations. You have five (5) calendar days in which to correct your personal information, and to submit any and all validating information regarding Native American heritage, residency, or other TNNAC notations, to TNNAC. Please return this résumé with any correction and validating material as soon as possible to TNNAC, box 1063, Chattanooga TN 37401.

If no response is received by TNNAC from you within five (5) days of the date of this message, TNNAC shall submit this résumé as is, with no changes. TNNAC would like to submit all commissioner-nominee materials to the state on or before 15 October, so the earlier you send it back, the better.

Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

On behalf of the TNNAC board,

tom kunesh
TNNAC Board member

Tennessee Legislature, Chapter No. 344, PUBLIC ACTS, 2003
SECTION 5.(b)

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TNNAC
box 1063
Chattanooga
TN 37401

Governor Phil Bredesen

attn: Boards and Commissions

Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville TN 37243-0001

Senate Speaker John S Wilder

1 Legislative Plaza
Nashville TN 37243-0026

House Speaker James Naifeh

19 Legislative Plaza
Nashville TN 37243-0181

Senator Thelma Harper

2 Legislative Plaza
Nashville TN 37243-0219

Representative Mike Kernell

38 Legislative Plaza
Nashville TN 37243-0193

Dept. of Environment & Conservation

attn: Boards and Commissions

401 Church Street
L & C Tower, 21st Floor
Nashville TN 37243-0435

Legislative Attorney Fred Standbrook

Office of Legal Services
G-10 War Memorial Building
Nashville TN 37243

Vicky Garland

TNNAC Vice Chair
55 C.C. Road
Lawrenceburg TN 38464

*mailed wednesday 30 july 2003
from Chattanooga*