June 2, 2014  
**When The Dogs Don’t Bark**

**The Dog That DID Bark**

There was an older woman I used to visit back in the 70’s. She lived in my neighborhood. I would bring her things she needed from the store. She had some problems with getting out into the world, so I was one of the few who would stop in and check on her.

She had a little white dog with big bat ears. He’s was darling. He hardly ever barked unless someone was at the door, and then it was just to alert her that someone was at the door.

I always brought my big black Labrador Retriever with me. Her little dog and my big dog were best of pals. Besides, it was probably the only time he got any exercise. She wasn’t big on walking. He would burst out the door when I came over, and chase my dog half a block down and then they would both U-turn and run back the other way half a block, and this would go on for three or four rounds, them taking turns chasing each other, and then they would come into the house, panting, happy, share a bowl of water and lie down side by each on the patio, mouthing a giant chew toy or playing tug of war with the rope I brought.

That was their standard greeting. For three years, that was how it went. We would all laugh, even the neighbors thought it was hysterical to watch the giant dog and the little dog chase each other.

One day, when I came over and they were chasing, I noticed her next door neighbor’s window was boarded over. These were condos. This wasn’t the best neighborhood, but neither was it a dangerous neighborhood, although things had been starting to go downhill a bit.

“What happened to Maggie’s window?” I asked.

“Oh that happened last night!” the woman said. “Jasper was barking up a storm and going crazy! I kept yelling at him to shut up! But he wouldn’t! I was afraid someone would call the police! He just tore the place up barking at her wall!”

“Oh my! What got into him?” I asked her.

“She was being beaten and robbed! He was trying to warn me! I felt so bad when I found out! They took her meds, her TV, her credit cards and trashed the place.”

I was amazed that she didn't hear the scuffle through the walls.

“At least you have a dog and you’ll be safe. No one can sneak up on you!”

The next week I went over again. She opened the door and my dog took off running for the chase, but there was no dog following the chase. She circled back, full speed,
thinking she was ahead of the game, her tongue hanging out of her mouth, panting, excited for the game... but there was no game.

“Where’s Jasper?” I asked.

“I had him put down, she said.”

By that time, my dog realized her friend was nowhere. She kept looking in all his favorite spots. She came in and searched for him. It was heartbreaking.

She went outside and put her foot on his water bowl, looked at me.

“He’s gone,” I said. Her demeanor went from concerned to deflated. She laid down next to the rope they played with, and just stared off.

“Why did you put him down?” I asked.

“Three days after the last time he threw that fit, he did it again. I couldn’t get him to shut up. I beat him with the broom and he still would not shut up. So, I took him to the vet and had him put down.”

“You know I would have taken him, don’t you?”

“I didn’t want to bother you,” she said. “I really miss him.” And then, she got this far away look and said: “You know, I felt so bad when I got home and the police and the ambulance were at Maggie’s again. The robbers had come back. She had refilled all her scripts and gotten a new TV, and they robbed her again.”

I was kind of numb. Even more numb later when I found out that she had beat her dog so badly he had to be put down. That was why she didn’t want me to take him. She didn’t want me to know.

“I’m scared to live alone now,” she said that next week when I came over. “Can you leave your dog with me? Just for awhile?”

It was a stunning request. I knew that if my dog barked to warn her, she would beat her too. There was no way I was going to allow that.

“I’m sorry,” I said, “You had a really good dog. You put him down. You can’t have mine.”

It just seemed weird to me, sociopathic for someone to beat a dog that was trying to alert her to danger, a danger that had just occurred a short time ago. The dog was punished for sounding the warning. The dog was killed for sounding the warning. Now that woman wanted my pity because she was afraid to live alone? And “can I have your dog”!!!
I watched her play her drama to others. She put on the pitiful face. She wanted pity. She wanted people to do things for her: Her shopping, washing her car, taking her car to be repaired (for free), clean her house (she was capable)… and a dog.

“The neighborhood is not safe anymore,” she said. “The old woman next door was beaten and robbed three times. I don’t feel safe not having a dog…” she’d look at me with those sad black eyes. “You’re dog is so well trained! You can train another one!” As if it was owed to her.

“My dog is well-trained,” I told her, “because I listen when she growls and I respond when she barks. You beat your dog to death. Now you want pity?”

Someone finally gave her a dog. A tiny thing. He crapped all over her furniture and she had to give it back. Somehow, I thought that was perfect.

Moral of this story: When you are being alerted to danger, to crimes being committed upon those who cannot defend themselves, they are your neighbors and you should act to protect them and not beat that dog to death.

**The Dogs That Didn’t Bark**

He was a cop. He and his wife lived out in the country in a very nice cottage. They had seven Doberman Pinschers, all bobbed, cropped & sleek & shiny. He knew he was safe. He knew the house was safe.

He and his wife came home from dinner one night and the dogs were there to greet them, happy and wriggly, as if nothing was wrong. A few of them looked sheepish & were slinking away… A little unusual---He suspected nothing until he opened his front door---his house had been burglarized.

Everything was gone: Electronics, guns, appliances (they took the freaking stove!) and his truck. The silver was gone, the safe was dragged away…. Ski gear, all of it, gone…

It turns out that the dogs were not as fierce as they looked. They could be bought off with a few steaks, and about 6 huge beef bones. The bones showed up later. The dogs had buried them in hiding places. There were still bits of steak on the deck, between the boards, where the dogs could not get it out.

He filed his reports, made his insurance claims and bought all new stuff. Except for the silver. That was Heirloom, so he only got cash value for that and some of the jewelry… and he got a new safe, same as the old safe, mind you.

A month later, he was hit again while he and his wife were celebrating their anniversary. Again, the dogs had been bribed and there were bones sticking out of holes in the yard.

The dogs were worthless.
Moral of these two stories: If the dog doesn’t bark it’s either because you beat it to death or because it was bribed.

If someone is trying to alert you that something is very wrong, criminal in fact, you might want to pay attention to that person and look at the facts they bring you.

If you are being robbed repeatedly, you might want to look at how easily your dogs are bribed. If you know there is a crime going on and nothing is being done about it, maybe you should look to see where they have buried their bones? Just a thought.

Let’s Pretend To Listen

Betty Jo Krenz had her meeting with Heitkamp’s staffer last week. He was very polite, very cordial, and not very bright.

Now, before we go much further, it might do to inform those who don’t know some foundational facts: Congressmen/Senators all have staff. These days, most of them choose their staff from the ranks of friends, lobbyists, etc. It is those staffers who actually write all but a handful of bills that go to congress. That is why so many of our laws are written to disempower voters, citizens from basic protections when it comes to violations or injuries done to them or their property by large corporations. The corporations are essentially writing the laws. That includes Big Banks, Oil Companies, etc.

I’m not sure where Heidi gets her staff from, but they are dumber than dirt when it comes to Indian Country. (Yes, we have all seen the photo of Heidi hugging her token Indian Staff member. She’s a very pretty young woman & wears Indian style attire for the photos.)

Also remember, Heitkamp has refused to meet with, even walking out on a meeting with Betty Jo Krenz. She has found ample time to meet with, lunch with and shoot the breeze with people such as Melissa Brady (not qualified to hold her position as either Director of Victim’s Services or Tribal Social Services, all of which she treats as if part time pass times, and for which she is paid as if she were both qualified and working full time at each position) … and with Paul Hutchinson, the disgraced, fired former Director of Tribal Social Services, who posted on his FB page that he wanted to pee in my face, and who had his license suspended by the Board of North Dakota.

Heitkamp has plenty of time to meet with them, but no time whatsoever to meet personally with Betty Jo Krenz, who has been the highest profile whistleblower on the crimes against children and the corruption in Tribal Social Services, for the past three years.

She sends her staffer, a young man named ‘Nagle’, out to talk to Betty Jo, not really to learn anything or address any of her concerns, but more to be able to technically say: “We met with her and listened to her concerns”, but really, with no intention of acting on any of her concerns: “Getting children out of the homes of sexual offenders,
registered sexual offenders; getting Law Enforcement to investigate rapes and child rapes on the rez; finding out who emptied the Trust Accounts of all the children on the rez; oh, and finding out what happened to more than 100 children suddenly missing off the roles with no paper trail and no one looking for them”. Those concerns.

But what Nagle was more interested in was getting Betty Jo to ‘help make this Bill better’. The “Bill” being the flowery, ornamented, curled production Heitkamp and her co authors are so proud of. One that was probably written by Staffers more accustomed to writing ways on how to get the Pipeline through without any accountability for spills, ruptures or damage to the environment.

It’s a great Bill. It talks about getting background checks on foster parents before they can have children placed…. it talks about this and that, and about more language classes and more culture classes for the kids…

Nowhere in that bill does it mention who is accountable for these kids. Nowhere does it specify any kind of oversight or penalty for anyone failing to meet those standards. Further, there is nothing new in that Bill that is not already in the BIA Handbook.

“How would you make this a better Bill?” Nagle asked Betty Jo.

Her answer was direct: “Tear it up. Put it in a garbage can. Set it on fire.”

He couldn’t answer any of her questions about who, what or where. He couldn’t explain to her how any of that would change anything for those kids who are being raped and beaten. Nor had he considered that a call at 3 AM to rescue a child and with no Foster Homes cleared, whom would that child go to? A relative who already has 6 kids and that’s where the child would be homed, thanks to ICWA because background checks take six weeks or longer… and relatives are usually the first place kids are dropped.

It would be about 6 weeks before anyone in Child Services or Tribal Social Services or the Police learned that the relative they placed the child with already had 6 major child abuse offenses against her because laws are put in place that make it so none of these agencies, none of these tribes need to share that nugget of information with anyone, not even other tribes. Same is true for Sex Offenders. So yeah, that Bill, has a few holes in it big enough to drive a truckload of dead babies through it. (This is precisely what has happened in multiple cases and precisely why baby Laurynn was killed at the hands of her relatives.

I think he muttered “sovereignty” as the blocking point. They always try to blame ‘sovereignty’ in order to avoid accountability. For the record: Unless a tribe has written into it’s constitution that the children are to be raped, robbed, beaten, and murdered, there is no ‘sovereignty’ conflict. Stop trying to use ‘Sovereignty’ as your out. It’s a lie.
Betty Jo Krenz continued her critique of the proposed Bill: “All those laws are already written into the BIA Handbook,” she told him. “Why were they not being followed? If they had been followed by the BIA, Laurynn Whiteshield (age 22 months) would still be alive today. But she’s not. Hope Whiteshield is in prison for murdering that child. Why isn’t Ireese Noseep, who was running the BIA Tribal Social Services on the rez for those months, and who placed her with that abusive family, why is she not in prison next to that woman?” Hope Whiteshield was known as a child abuser on the rez by every agency, and every tribal member. How did Noseep “miss” this? Possibly from shredding documents for 12 -14 hours a day, 7 days a week, to cover the tracks of the previous corrupt Directors and their staff.

*Noseep and her family are extremely big in the BIA and very tight with the Federal Government for the past 30 years. Ireese has left more dead babies, more raped children without a chance in more than one reservation. She comes in, destroys paperwork (shredders are her friend) and then moves on as soon as there’s another horrific murder that gets public attention. Get to know more about the Noseep family. Very wealthy, very powerful, very protective of the predators. Bullies to anyone that dares try to protect the children. I wonder what bones are buried in her back yard? In her family’s backyard?

Nagle and the staffer that came with him were staring at the BIA Handbook.

“Where did you get that?” They had no idea it even existed! Yeah, the people writing the Bills that are to become Law don’t even know the dynamic involved in Indian Country between agencies. *slow head shake* Bet they also never heard of the IHS/BIA Jurisdictional Chart that’s been available since 2004, that throws any “sovereignty” excuses out the window.

“It’s on the internet for all the world to see,” Betty Jo informed him.

“Can we have your copy?” They asked.

“Sure.” (They couldn’t download and print their own copy?)

And off they went. Don’t worry, those dogs won’t bark. They’ve got too many bones buried in their backyard. They’re more worried about the dog that does bark, and won’t stop, as long as there are children being hurt & government ‘watchdogs’ burying bribes in their hiding places.

Meanwhile, Betty Jo carries on sounding the alarm that there is still ongoing crimes being committed against children. Horrific crimes, and children are being trafficked and beaten, robbed of their savings/trust funds and every option in life being taken away from them until all that is left is addiction, violence, alcoholism and suicide.

Heitkamp is not going to come up with any solutions. She’s doing all she can to not see the crimes against children. And she’s being paid very well to not bark as they
are being beaten and robbed. You’d think by now she would have her ear to that wall and see if maybe there isn’t something she could do?

**Other Dogs, Other Fights**

There’s another recall of Mardell Lewis happening this week, I am told. People are tired of her big talk and BS. They are tired of her not showing up at meetings at home or on the road. They are most of all disgusted with the way she conducts herself in public; going onto facebook to threaten to breach confidentiality of her critics to silence them.

What upsets the tribe the most is her outright flaunting of her affair with Joel Redfox, the other Council Member, who is a sex offender and should never have been allowed to run for that seat, but Doug Longie on the Elections Board puts his friends on, and keeps his enemies off.

Mardell has to go. No question about it. But what never ceases to amaze me are those loudest voices from those who should be hanging their heads in shame: Bonita Morin, who, along with her brother, Andrew, conspired to steal thousands of dollars worth of Tribal property (a $10K generator, brand new, still in the wrapper, which Andrew promptly tried to hock for a fraction of its value)… is one of the loudest voices… as if she had been wrongly terminated!

Are there no other voices of indignation out there besides thieves, murderers, child rapists? Is that all that is left of your tribe? Speak up! Make yourselves known!

Mardell and Joel have to go, so does Russell, Clarice and the entire lot of them… but who will you replace them with? What caliber of decency is left?

You better find the good people and support them and that means all the way. Or all you will have is reruns of the uglies, the greedy and the incredibly stupid.

**Still Barking**

Outrage is fine, but it is exhausting. Aim with clarity and precision so that your outrage does not go to waste. Stay steady on it. Make the media do their job of questioning—with actual follow-up questions, some of these absurd statements by people trying to convince us they are doing their jobs, when in fact they have allowed this to go on, for years. Point in fact: That the rapes reported repeatedly in this blog, which were reported to both Purdon and the BIA, have not been investigated and they continue with those children knowing no help is coming.

Do what you can while you can. You owe to the children today, and your future with those children tomorrow.

And when you see someone bashing Betty Jo Krenz for speaking up and speaking out to sound the alarm about the horrors being done to the children of Spirit Lake, picture that old woman beating her dog with a broom because she wants quiet, and
ask yourself: “What has that person ever done to make the tribe a better place? What has that loudmouth ever done to make the reservation safer for all children?” What, besides beating on the dog, have they contributed to any of this?

Those dogs all were silent as the children were being raped, robbed, beaten and murdered. They still are. They only snarl at the dog with courage to stand up for those children. They just want the barking to stop so they can go back to ignoring the pain, suffering rape and abuse. *Turn the TV up louder*

Think about it: The children are the future. If you don’t stand up for the children of your reservation, you condemn your reservation to becoming nothing more than another trash heap where toxic wastes are dumped, out in the open.

You have no future because the children were not safe in the past and in the present. You make your future out of broken children. That’s on all of us, not just the rez. The rez did not invent corruption, it’s simply where our most powerful agencies practice it with impunity, for decades. The result is broken Human Beings, Human wreckage, and it does not stay on the rez, and it comes with a higher and higher cost to our security, our economy and our sense of community.

We are weakened by every child our government fails to protect. We are put in greater and greater danger by every predator their policies and practices protect. We’ve had enough. It’s time to change. It’s time to hold accountable not only the predators, but their protectors. This won’t change unless we make it change. Channel your outrage with precision, consistency, and clarity. Never quit.

For Spirit Lake Nation, the Dog that barks is not the problem. Ignoring it, silencing it will not make you more secure. Not now, not later. Betty Jo is not the problem. The problem is those shiny, sleek dogs with congressional pedigrees that are letting the child traffickers, the rapists and the thieves do whatever they want. You might want to look in their backyards and see what bones are buried there.

Running off, intimidating, threatening and harassing the dog that barked to warn you what was happening to your children is bad enough. Now asking for pity, more funding with no accountability, no criminal investigations, no penalties for those who committed these crimes and those who protected them only means you want this problem, these rapes of children, to continue.

Show Dogs

Marilyn Kennerson had her squad at the rez, crawling all over the place, getting nowhere and doing nothing. She’s supposedly been working on this issue for over a year now. Almost two years. She only showed up after 22 months to pretend she gave a crap about those kids. She acts as if she had never read any of the 13 Mandated Reports issued by Thomas Sullivan.
She also excluded Thomas Sullivan, the one person in her agency with the most information and understanding of the dynamics of the corruption and the abuse of children on that rez. After all, this was just for show, you know. Had she really wanted to directly deal with the ‘issue’ (I call them crimes, but she sanitizes them to sound less urgent and calls them ‘issues’ or ‘situations’ or blah, blah, blah…) she would not have excluded the one person who had the most information from her mini posse. And she would have contacted Betty Jo Krenz… but of course, that would upset the people she’s beholden to. This was a great show she put on. And at great expense to the taxpayers. Those staffers, those trips don’t come cheap you know!

It’s getting harder and harder for the ACF puppets to flail around and look like they are doing something, when in fact, they have done nothing (except beat on the barking dogs), and have accomplished nothing except to pour more tax dollars into the cesspool of corruption.

So, Marilyn, it’s been two years, you waited 22 months before you even engaged, what have you accomplished? Why have you excluded the one person in your agency that actually knows what’s going on? Is it because you don’t want to know?

This is not something you can do best by ‘a fresh start’ with no information and no paper trail. Excluding those who will tell you the Truth is hardly your best move. I hope someone drops this page (if not the whole blog) into your cubicle. I hear it is surrounded by High Security and no one is allowed to enter, or even ask if you are present that day.

These are hardcore crimes against little children, babies. Play dumb all you want, I’m starting to believe you are dumb. Or maybe you, like the other shiny big dogs, have some bones buried in your hiding places?

It’s Coming

Meanwhile, there will be more tiny coffins, more outrage, and nothing but song, dance and clichés from those whose job it is and whose job it has been, to protect those children. They make too much money, get too much power and pleasure from protecting the most vile and evil that Human Beings can be.

Those who are supposed to be the watchdogs are either corrupt, or incompetent. There are no other options available. They know what’s going on. Make them feel it.

Put your ear to the walls and listen. You might learn something that will give you a chance to act to help someone else before it is too late and you cannot even save yourself. All Betty Jo Krenz does is speak the absolute truth, and that scares the shit out of Heidi Heitkamp and the others. I wonder why?

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 5, 2014
FREEEEEEEE

RICHARD LAFUENTE HAS BEEN RELEASED!!!

After again turning down Richard LaFuente's Parole last June, for some reason, the Parole Board abruptly reversed itself three weeks ago, citing Richard's perfect record while in prison. The same perfect record they previously said was of no merit in considering his release.

In a last jab at making his life and the lives of his family just a little more miserable, Richard's family was not allowed to greet him at the gate as is customary. Nor were the Innocence Project Attorney, Julie Jonas, nor the Texas Monthly writer, Mike Hall. They were all told to wait across the street. The Texas Monthly photographer was told to delete any pictures they had taken.

So, even with his release, for some reason, there is either a vindictive mean-spirited aspect to those in power who deeply resent freeing a man whom they know is innocent, or there are some very powerful people so afraid of this story and the possibility of his exoneration, that they try to make it is difficult as possible to document the most important moments in this story.

Documentary Film Maker, Todd Trotter is not dissuaded. He has a new Indiegogo fundraising site up, and I urge all of you to go and look at it, watch the trailer and to donate whatever you can so that this project can be completed.

Richard is Free, but we still need exoneration, not just to clear his name, but to shine the light on the real murderers who have gotten away with Eddie's murder for over 30 years now. They have wreaked havoc on the reservation and they are, in my opinion, the ulcerating canker that has crippled and stained Spirit Lake Nation, and frankly, opened up the door to what I and several others have discovered as the most systematic corruption scandals in our nation's history, all within Indian Country, but affecting every corner of Turtle Island.

If not for researching the facts in the Murder of Eddie Peltier, I never would have seen or heard about the rampant corruption in so many Federal, State and Tribal governments, nor the horrific murders, rapes and chronic abuses of children which our Federal Government through the BIA, FBI and DOJ, refuse to investigate.

Let's work to get Richard exonerated. It will exonerate all of the wrongly convicted in this case, and it will force an investigation into the real killers of Eddie Peltier, and that will turn over more rocks of Federal corruption than you can even begin to guess at.

Richard is free, but this is not over.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 9, 2014
Violence v Strength

“Violence is never a sign of strength. It is always a sign of failure.”—Cat West

“When it gets down to having to use violence, then you are playing the System’s game.

The establishment will irritate you: Pull your beard, flick your face to make you fight. Because once they’ve got you violent, then they know how to handle you.

The only things they don’t know how to handle is non-violence and humor.”—John Lennon

Non-violence is the harder path, the braver path but the only path that in the end, will endure. Anything done in anger and rage will come undone because it simply cannot be maintained at the level of anger and rage required.

Being angered is one thing. Being angered to the point where you allow your rage to take over is the same as you giving your opposition the keys to push all your buttons and to mow you down. Don’t do it.

I also know that when there is no Justice, people lose faith in the system, lose trust in their government and lose respect for all the laws as either powerless or biased in that they are only applied to certain classes of people, not to all who commit crimes.

I know that there has been no Justice in Indian Country since the inception of the Reservation system and the BIA, which is the perpetrators of the greatest injustices of all. I’m not saying there are not good people in the BIA, I’m just saying that they are not the ones allowed to be in charge.

When good people end up working for and doing the bidding of bad people, we have corruption on a massive scale, regardless of whether it is a government agency, a Tribal Council, or a police department.

If no matter where the people turn, Justice is denied to them, we create a growing despair and a greater and greater social insecurity because there are more and more people giving up on Justice and more and more tempted to take matters into their own hands, regardless of the ultimate failure of that path. More and more people become extreme in their views and more and more people become violent when they see how impotent the laws really are. Laws corrupted by massive, generational injustice.

Then the system rolls out a machine called ‘media’ which is by nature, lazy. They seek attention but they worship profits, so they don’t hire qualified people, people of character and they outright fired their fact checkers lately because ‘journalism has changed’. They now function on mob mentality, celebrity gossip as the distraction and stereo typing as gospel when covering any story.
Further, you can switch through every network, every "news" channel and they will all be telling the exact same stories in exactly the same way using the exact same descriptions and sentences… that should bother all of us. It means that the 'news' is not news, it is 'scripted' and it is not fact checked or written by anyone in the newsrooms, it is merely copied from whatever PR feed they use as source.

They are free to use all newsfeeds without attribution or giving credit to the source, and so viewers think they are watching that station’s staff’s original work. They are not. Try it. Flip through the news channels at that hour. Even the weather is delivered in the same exact scripting with rare exceptions.

That repetitive drone of same words, same cadence is designed to put you to sleep so that you hear it but can't remember what you heard and have no clue what it means and never think “Why did that happen?”

You see someone on the street with a beard and if you don’t like the color of his skin you think “Muslim!” and if you think “Muslim!” you also conflate it with “terrorism”. If you like the color of his skin because it is white, you think “Cool! Duck Dynasty!” or “ZZTOP!”

We are conditioned by media to become reactionary and non-thinking. Turn off your TV and talk to one another. Actually turn it off. You can turn it on again in an hour or the next day, but actually talk to people around you, without the drone of the TV in the background. You'll learn more in that hour than you will all week from the 'news', I guarantee it. And what you learn will be more relevant to your life and give you a firmer idea of where you stand with others and where you do not, and who you are.

**Now Look Again**

When you see a prostitute, a junkie, a homeless person, you are conditioned to think of them as failures. As if they made all the wrong choices in this world and they ‘had this coming’. That is a stereotype. You don’t know what their lives have been, who they are or how they got this way.

You blame them. You blame drugs. You blame their families. You blame their race. You feel comfortable ridiculing them, and comfortable in your assumptions about them.

I will tell you now and I want you to really think on this: No one chooses to be an addict, a junkie, a prostitute, an alcoholic or homeless. What you are looking at are survivors or horrors you and I can never even fully imagine. Horrors that stripped them of their dignity, their identity and their sense of value in this world. They are surviving the only way they can.

It was the system that destroyed them, took away all their options, demolished their dignity through repeated violence and injustices. The system that forgives the wealthy and the white, but which demands perfection from others because if they
don’t appreciate that the wealthy have let them live at all, they don’t deserve freedom, they don’t deserve opportunity, they don’t deserve justice or education. They deserve to ‘pay’ for their failures. They are not their own failures, they are OUR failures.

**Children v Politics**

We are shockingly aware of the injustices and violence occurring in Indian Country through the window we have into Spirit Lake. We see the system is corrupt and that it protects the predators at the expense of the victims, some only a few days old.

There are billions of dollars that flow through Indian Country, but only a few hands get to really touch any of it. They are the politically connected, the powerful and the corrupt.

We only see, through this window we have onto Spirit Lake Nation, a fraction of the horrors and the injustices ---only a fraction.

But what we have seen is very revealing. We see politicians posturing and posing for photo ops with the most corrupt. We see the Tribal Council immune from any legal recourse for their crooked ways. We see the Federal Government obstructing and interfering with any investigations into the abuses of children, including the trafficking of babies and young children, while declaring they are ‘fixing’ the problem.

We now know that the BIA Strike Team that was so boldly touted by the USAG and the BIA gave ‘technical assistance’ to the tribe which actually changed nothing. That technical assistance, we now find out, involved the massive day-in/day-out shredding of documents that would have been needed in any investigation into the crimes against the children in that one reservation.

So, when any Federal Agency uses the term “Technical Assistance” referring to Indian Country, you know what they mean now: “Destroying the Evidence of the crimes committed.”

We know that the USAG and the BIA have refused to investigate all but one of the rape reports submitted to them over the past 3 years, and most likely, for the past 50 years or more, on Spirit Lake Nation Reservation.

A mother who reported her daughter raped was arrested, her daughter taken from her and put in an institution and the rapist was taken at his word that ‘she wanted it’.

Heidi Heitkamp, along with Murkowski and others, have embarked on a multi-million dollar committee (that will last, coincidentally, the duration of her term) and come up with the solution to the violence, the rapes and the corruption as ‘more language classes and more cultural events.’

If you had serial rapists running loose in your neighborhood, would you want the police to investigate? Or would you prefer that there be more language and cultural events sponsored?
Heitkamp and her crowd want to do all they can to distract anyone from looking at Spirit Lake, where the core of injustice throughout Indian Country is on display for all to see, if they just look….

She has lobbied President Obama to make his choice of reservations to visit instead, Standing Rock. She wants to promote the oil and gas economy (which is her priority and has been since Day One, never mind the dead children, raped, mutilated or even robbed of their funds, their options and their dignity).

Let’s hope that the President, after he enjoys the cultural welcome, the fancy dancing, the blankets and gifts, actually drives around and meets people who live in the shacks, and who have no hope. Let him see what corruption has really done in Indian Country. Standing Rock is as good an example as anywhere else.

There will be the very wealthy Indians who get his attention and there will be no one allowing him to actually see who is paying the price of the corruption both in the Tribal Council and in the Federal System.

He will be told that they need ‘more economic development’… and he will be moved to help create that without figuring out that until there is Justice and the corruption is removed and the people can expect fair and decent treatment from the system, then more casinos, more dirty fracking and the environmental damage left behind, none of that is going to change anything in Indian Country except to make it worse.

Give the People Justice and the People will heal and they can develop their own economic opportunities. Without Justice, every dime the government throws into Indian Country goes into the pockets of the corrupt and the powerful. May as well throw it into the toilet.

Bring Justice first and then bring what is asked for by the people--- not their wealthy, corrupt leaders. Make their communities safe for the children and the children will thrive.

Anything else is just pathetic PR designed to distract away from the source of the problem. It is the ultimate stereo typing to look at the Human Wreckage in Indian Country and assume that it was the lack of economic opportunity. It was not. It was the lack of Justice. It was the enforcement of Injustice. It was and it is the protection of the corrupt and the predators. THAT is the FIRST thing that has to change.

Heidi wants you to believe that Oil is going to fix everything. That the Pipeline is jobs. It is not. The pipeline is for Canada’s dirty oil to cross to our ports so it can be shipped out to China. We have no refineries that can process that kind of product. It will not drive down the cost of oil in the US, it will drive it up because it will be sold to other countries. If were not allowed to be sold to other countries and had to be sold in the US, there would be so much of it we would pay pennies for a gallon of gas.
But it was never intended for here. It is only intended for Asia. And it is unsuitable for here because it is so high in contaminates.

The Pipeline will put at risk every aquifer, every river, every town it passes through. They still don’t know how to clean up spills. There are no oil spills that have occurred in the past 20 years that are cleaned up. If they had the ‘new tech’ that makes it safer, they would have used it to renovate the existing pipelines that leak and spill and blow up every week.

If they had the new tech that could clean up oil spills, they would have used it in Mayflower, Arkansas or in any number of other communities where rail and pipelines have ruptured, blown up, leaked… that would have been the proof that they had what it takes to both make it safe and to clean it up. But they don’t.

There are fewer than 50 jobs that will be created by that pipeline. We will take all the risks, and the Oilmen in Canada will get all the profits. Our tax dollars will be the greater part of any clean up. Our tax dollars and our personal income will be the main payment for health hazards, sickness, and deformities caused by their carelessness.

But that is where Heidi Heitkamp is focused. Everything she is saying is a lie. But she wants you to believe it because she is a Democrat who votes Republican and she is a woman.

And now, she wants to be sure the President doesn’t see for himself, much less have the opportunity to meet with, anyone involved or who is trying to resolve the child abuse horrors of Spirit Lake Nation.

If she were truly, and her $4 Million committee were truly concerned about the children of Spirit Lake as she pretends she is, THAT is where she would have brought the President’s attention.

She says the child abuse is her priority. So far, she wants no one to look at it, and she thinks Language and cultural funding is the cure.

She prefers to direct all attention away from Spirit Lake and towards the profits from Oil, which do nothing for Indian Country, except for a few very powerful, very corrupt individuals who fear no investigations into how they got rich or powerful.

The Oil Companies have lobbyists. The kids on the rez have nothing. I would think someone in the Senate would want to get this one right. Apparently, not. As you can see, it’s still up to us to demand this be made right.

The Oil Companies and the Casinos are getting richer by the hour. Still, there are children being forced to live with their rapists because Heitkamp thinks there are more important things in Indian Country.

What is more important to any community, any Nation, than the safety of it’s children and Justice for All? I guess that would be “Oil”.

This is a signature moment in this presidency. For her to turn it into a cheap PR stunt for herself and her friends, is despicable.

Anyone impressed by her? I am not.

There is a growing sense that there is no Justice; that the laws are not to protect the innocent and the system has no value on children or Human Beings. Only the corrupt have power. The powerful only want to cater to the corrupt.

I say to stay non-violent, but I see the pressure building up, and the corrupt laughing at their brunches with Senators and Appointed Officials. I see disempowered people held hostage by the corrupt in their leadership, and the Federal government wanting to give even more autonomy to the corrupt, less recourse, less Justice for the victims of a system that has created the snake pit into which children are thrown, their screams ignored and their lives devalued down to the very last minute of their lives.

You and I, all of us, we must be the lobby for the children. We must do everything in our power to make it known that the children come first. Justice comes first.

Heitkamp could have done better by these kids, but she never intended to do anything but ride them like a rent horse to get to where she wants to go, and where she wants to go has some very wealthy, very powerful people, and they all prefer oil to children. She’s earned her place there. She has yet to ask for an investigation into the crimes committed on these kids. She has yet to demand Justice.

If this was your child, being raped, how long would you wait? How much of this political grandstanding would you put up with?

Now, when you see a prostitute, an addict, a homeless person, or someone who only knows violence, know this one thing: Those who could have prevented this, knew about it, and did nothing— for decades, generations. Now you know what those people who did nothing, look like, sound like & what they do and say to convince you they care. Now you know, they don’t care about you. They never did. They never will.

It’s a show.

Until there is Justice, there is nothing but corruption and we feel it, even if we don’t recognize it when we see it. We feel it every time we lock our doors.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, June 10, 2014

*** MEDIA ADVISORY***

Indian Affairs Subcommittee to Examine the Child Welfare & Justice System on the Spirit Lake Tribe’s Reservation

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Tuesday, June 24th, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs will hold an oversight hearing entitled “Child Protection & the Justice System on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation.” This hearing will assess whether Congressional action is needed to address systematic problems with the child welfare and justice system on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation in North Dakota.

Over the past two years, numerous reports in state and national media have documented what the New York Times and CNN have described as “epidemic” and “rampant” child abuse, rape, and assault on the reservation. In virtually all reported cases, both the victim and offender are members of the tribe and therefore fall under the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the federal government. This hearing will examine the current status of child welfare and protection services on the reservation that is publicly unknown because relevant federal and tribal agencies lack transparency.

Several federal officials considered whistleblowers by the media have alleged that child abuse problems continue on the Spirit Lake Reservation and in one instance, federal supervisors reportedly attempted to silence the whistleblowers. At the hearing, the Subcommittee will hear testimony from individuals personally familiar with the problems on the Spirit Lake Reservation.
“The recurring deaths and child abuse cases on Spirit Lake are unacceptable. Clearly the current system is failing our children. The goal of this hearing is to shine a light on the situation and promote a dialogue about solutions between local, state, tribal, and federal government,” said Congressman Kevin Cramer (ND-at large).

WHAT: Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs oversight hearing on “Child Protection and the Justice System on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation”

WHEN: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 2:00 PM

WHERE: 1334 Hearing Room in the Longworth House Office Building

Visit the Committee Calendar for additional information, once it is made available. The meeting is open to the public and a live video stream will be broadcast at http://naturalresources.house.gov/live.

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NaturalResources.house.gov

What does this mean? It means that someone in government is going to actually look at the wrong-doing in Spirit Lake, and treat this as an investigation into the rampant child abuse and rapes that occur out there.

It also means that people who have thought themselves immune from answering to anyone as they obstructed investigations and even interfered with those who made Mandated Reports, those people will have to answer to Congress.

Meanwhile, a young girl still waits for the BIA to ‘get around’ to investigating the rapes she has reported since before Christmas. Remember: It is a level 3 sex offender that is committing the rapes.

Oh, and in case you had any doubts about how the Tribe protects the rapists out there, know that SLN is actively resisting the warrant for this sex offender’s arrest. In fact, four warrants that have been issued by Ramsey County.

So, when Chairman McDonald tells you that the tribe considers Children as ‘sacred’, ask him if he considers the rape of a child a crime.

The Latest attempt at reporting these horrific crimes to Ms. McMullen is in this email from Thomas Sullivan:
Ms. McMullen:

One month ago I wrote a four page email documenting the level of control exercised by the criminally corrupt at Spirit Lake.

This was not the first time I had raised their control over events at Spirit Lake. Almost two years ago, in my First Mandated Report, dated June 14, 2012, I quoted favorably from a letter composed by former Tribal Judge Molly McDonald who had written, “I grew up on this reservation and witnessed many acts of violence and abuse. This is normal to us. Our tribe has adopted this as a way of life, violence and hopelessness. When does the cycle end?...The abuse is reported but nothing is done by Social Services or Law Enforcement. Where do we go from there?.... Please consider that if an investigation had been done, many children could have been saved from further abuse, and possibly, they would have been alive today......our tribe is attempting to cover up these issues that plagued our reservation for many years......Whatever picture our tribal council or chairman want to paint, it simply is not the case. There is a dire need for professionals …that know their boundaries and will not overlook issues at the request of Tribal Council.”

When former Tribal Judge McDonald wrote that letter in the Spring of 2012, the criminally corrupt controlled the levers of power at Spirit Lake. They still do. Now, however, after going unchallenged by anyone in authority for so many years, they may have gone too far for most responsible people.

In item # 2 in my December 19, 2013 email to you I referenced the allegation that a 13 year old little girl was being raped by a known sex offender, that this had been reported to the Tribal Chair and Council, BIA and Tribal law enforcement. The child’s non-custodial father was told by the BIA that they would not be able to investigate this allegation for another thirty days at the earliest. I have periodically referenced this child’s situation in my subsequent emails to you. To my knowledge, more than 6 months after this allegation was first reported to the BIA, no investigation has yet been conducted. This is how innocent victims are treated at Spirit Lake! Would such a failure to investigate these allegations, to stop the abuse and to protect the innocent victim be tolerated in Devils Lake, ND, the nearest off reservation majority community?

Clearly the criminally corrupt do not control Devils Lake. Even though the alleged rapist, referenced above, resides on the Spirit Lake reservation, the State’s Attorney for Ramsey County (Devils Lake is the county seat for Ramsey County) has obtained four
felony indictments against this man for child abuse, endangerment for actions he engaged in off the reservation in Ramsey County. My sources and I suspect these indictments are for child sexual abuse but have not thus far been able to obtain confirmation of our suspicions. Nevertheless, these are felony level charges involving the abuse of a child. I believe most thinking adults, knowing this, would consider those to be serious charges. This is not an opinion held by the Spirit Lake leadership because they are refusing to allow this alleged rapist of a 13 year old little girl, the subject of four felony indictments involving child abuse, to be extradited to Ramsey County.

Apparently this is how it works at Spirit Lake: the allegations of little girls who report they are being raped are ignored while their alleged rapists the subject of four felony indictments for child abuse is shielded from the law. If this isn’t a new extreme in criminal corruption what is?

Thomas F. Sullivan
Regional Administrator, ACF, Denver

Remember: McMullen sees the man who is making these reports as ‘the problem’. She does not view rampant child abuse, rape and even child trafficking as a ‘problem’ she should be bothered with. Her mission is to support those corrupt agencies that are also ignoring these crimes, even participating in them by protecting the predators.

Until we make real moves to stop the corruption, enforce the laws, and give everyone in Indian Country equal protection under the laws, until we do that, this will only get worse.

The corrupt will continue to get wealthier and more powerful and our elected and appointed leaders will continue to hobnob with them at fund raisers, and develop even more ways they can skim away the money that was intended to go to everything from housing to suicide prevention: senior care and medical care.

Laws are worthless without enforcement. Without Justice, no one is safe, on or off the rez. Those who profit from the corruption and those who protect the corrupt need to be exposed and made to answer both before Congress and in a court of law.

This hearing will be televised on C-Span and live streamed so be sure and watch.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
Hiatus

Dear Loyal Readers:

It's been almost 20 years since I began pursuing Restless Spirit as a project to exonerate 11 men who were innocent and two men who were at the time, still in prison: John Perez and Richard LaFuente.

Almost a decade ago, Perez was finally freed, but LaFuente remained in prison. Richard LaFuente is finally freed. There is still the ongoing efforts to exonerate him, and along with him, the other 10 victims of a corrupted Justice system that has done everything in its power to abuse, smear and keep the innocent in prison.

I have maintained this website in one form or another for almost 17 years. It has become one of the voices against not only the wrongfully convicted 11 men, but also a window into the corruption that made that, and several other wrongful convictions so easy for the government to pursue and brag about.

Restless Spirit has evolved into pursuing the corrupt, the corruption of the system to also expose on that same reservation, massive, rampant child abuse and the efforts of government officials to silence anyone that dares to speak about it.

Along the way, I have found greater and greater allies who have on their own pursued Justice for both Richard LaFuente and the others, as well as for exposing the horrific systematic, government approved abuses of children, including their extreme neglect, rape and murder. Many of these incidents are directly tied to the same people that not only murdered Eddie Peltier, but also those who actively covered it up, and that bell rings at every level of government, from Tribal all the way to the White House.

The New York Times has done amazing in-depth pieces on the child abuse. Local media has, at least on the TV side, taken a strident stand to bring these child abuses to the attention of North Dakotans. It is getting attention now and there will be a subcommittee hearing on the 24th of this month (see previous blog for details), and media is sure to cover that so you really don't need the blog at this time, to keep you informed.

The amazing, almost super human efforts by both Todd Trotter and Michael Hall in bringing the story of Richard LaFuente’s wrongful conviction to a greater audience, I believe, is the reason the Federal System felt the pressure and did not want to further the stain on their image, and they released him for reasons they have stated, but which make no sense given their history of abusing a man they knew was innocent.
You have been loyal and good readers. Many of you have taken action, even donated to the Documentary project that Todd Trotter is working on right now. If you haven’t yet, I encourage you to view both the website, Incident At Devils Lake and the Indiegogo fundraising site, to make a contribution to bring this story to yet an even greater audience.

Nothing changes in government unless there is public awareness and public action to demand that the wrongs be righted, whether it is a wrongful conviction or the continuing abuse, rapes, murders and trafficking of children on the Spirit Lake Rez, with a system wide corruption that tells us all, it's happening just about everywhere, on every reservation and too often, throughout the system where children's voices have no lobby. The unborn have lobbies, but not the living. Something to think about?

But it is time I take a long break from this. I have had only working vacations, seldom even taking more than a week off at a time, (I can only remember 3 vacations in the past 18 years), and I really need one now.

I know there is still much going on, but like I said, there will be media coverage to keep you informed. I need a break.

The children of Spirit Lake have a real champion in Betty Jo Krenz and those who work with her, to end the injustices and indignities done to them by a system that prefers you know nothing about their crimes, a system that has become the protector of predators. Support her and her efforts any way you can. Your efforts, even though you may think they were not enough, have made a major difference in ways you cannot imagine. Stay engaged. Never quit!

All this time I have pushed personal issues to the side to make sure I kept my attention, effort, strength on this blog.

I have yet to grieve the losses of several friends, mentors, who have passed during this time. I have yet to grieve the losses of my four-legged companions and most recently, I have yet to allow myself to grieve the loss of a brother whom I loved very much, and whom I raised. The world saw only his disabilities. I saw an amazing spirit, struggling to belong in a world that really, was not worthy of him.

I work to change that world.

I will be back after the 24th. I will respond to emails as time permits. I will store important information for the blog in a file.

But really, I need a break.

~Cat
*June 18, 2014
To Tell The Truth

This was not going to be “just a vacation” from the blog for me. I had planned to bow out. My goal in beginning this whole project was to get the story out. The story of abuse of power, corruption and wrongful conviction because no media would listen or even respond to any inquiries I made. Also, no government official, agency, or politician would respond to my well-assembled, detailed, documented packet (with table of contents, mind you) regarding the horrific wrongful conviction of 11 men for a crime they had nothing to do with.

Along the way, as I looked deeper and deeper into the players and agencies involved in that miscarriage of justice, I found even greater evils, greater tentacles of evil, in the abuse, rape, trafficking and murders of children on that rez, all attached, connected to the same players, bad guys, agencies and community leaders who were involved in the murder and/or the cover-up of Eddie Peltier’s murder, and the framing of the 11 men who had nothing to do with the murder.

All this time, Richard LaFuente was rotting in prison for the murder committed by James, Quentin, Roger Yankton and their sister Celeste, along with a lot of help from other family members and a few friends, as well as the FBI and the BIA (James Yankton was a BIA cop at the time).

All I wanted at first, was for media to know and get the story out, and for Richard to be free from prison and exonerated.

When I saw the depths of child abuse, all of it systematically protected from the families to the Tribal Councils (many of the tribal council members themselves are abusers or rapists), to the BIA who refuses to investigate a single rape case, especially if it involves family members or members of politically connected families as the rapists, I wanted to get that story out and for media and government to pay attention.

Along came Michael Hall of Texas Monthly and then Todd Trotter who is making the documentary on Eddie’s murder and the investigation and trial that were so outrageously fabricated to both give cover to the real murderers, and to frame the innocent.

And then Richard was set free--- and in the weirdest way I’ve ever heard of. No explanation given, just abruptly turned out into the world with no ties to the system whatsoever.

The documentary will eventually get funding and it will get made and that story will be told. It won’t be told the way I would tell it, mind you—it will be told much better.

And with the upcoming sub committee hearing which would shine a bright light on the abuses in the system from the ACF, HHS, BIA, FBI and DOJ in allowing, even protecting the rapists, child rapists no less, on the rez, I figured that was going to
graduate this project into the next level, where those in power, those in position of responsibility, could take it from here. My blog, for so long the only voice telling the story, would only be so much background noise as those who could and should do this better would be.

I was going to ride off into the sunset, and looked forward to some free time and more energy for the things I had put aside, stopped doing for over 18 years while this project took all my attention and time and energy.

In fact, I had already drafted my “Thank you & Good bye” posting to end this blog at the end of this month.

Well, Richard is free and the documentary is being made (with your help and donations to https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/incident-at-devils-lake-a-documentary-feature). So that is taken care of.

But there has been a war waging in one small place in Congress and some very big power players have leaned in, and are now standing on the necks of those who are trying to get this hearing into the full light. They've pulled out all the stops. Every evil thing they have ever done, ever covered up, ever protected, is calling their names and telling them to stop any real investigation.

It's a sign that our government is being controlled by not just corruption, but evil. What else can you call it when those in office work so hard to prevent the truth from being told and who think Child Rape is ‘an issue’, but not a crime worthy of immediate investigation?

Just as Heidi Heitkamp and her very well-connected allies pressured the White House to turn Barack Obama’s trip to Indian Country into nothing more than a day long photo op, which is all it was when he went to Standing Rock. He used some of his boilerplate speech template, promised more money for housing (I knew that was coming) (It won’t improve the homes for the people of Standing Rock anymore than the previous millions put into that agency have helped anyone except those who raid the funds to improve their own at the expense of the community.) Nothing changes.

When some of the people tried to get a straight answer out of him regarding the Pipeline, which they are absolutely opposed to, he brushed them off. It was a photo op, nothing more.

Well, those same power players went ballistic when they learned that Betty Jo Krenz was not only invited to speak, but was going to be the opening speaker at the subcommittee hearing.

Betty Jo's life has been turned upside down. The Democrats on the committee, doing the bidding of the BIA, have threatened and slandered Betty Jo and by their votes, had her disinvited to the hearing. Also, they removed Thomas Sullivan from being a witness. They only want to hear from Russell McDonald, who will only say what the
BIA tells him to say. If he does as he’s told, the committee will give him more money to ‘fix’ the problems they don’t want to hear about from those who know it best, and that money will fix nothing as the corruption is so prevalent throughout the system, Tribal Council, Tribal Social Services, BIA, FBI, DOJ – all of whom ignore the 13 Mandated reports of rapes and child rapes, to the point that the children mentioned in those reports have continued to be raped and abused and some have ended up in the news as victims of horrific ongoing abuses, or as tiny little victims of vicious, violent, murderers.

The Democrats on the committee are thwarting all efforts to get this heard in full, by those who were there, those who made the reports and those who know the truth and will speak the truth.

I believe Heitkamp is the driving force behind this. She has a lot to lose if this gets heard. She was the State of North Dakota’s Attorney General during much of these crimes and she has to answer for why she allowed this to continue without ever once investigating. I have a feeling she doesn’t want to answer about what she knew, when she knew and why she did nothing.

Heitkamp is very chummy with people like Melissa Brady, who is not qualified to be the Director of Victim’s Assistance and even less so for being Director of Tribal Social Services, and she has both jobs, and treats both as part-time jobs, when both should be full-time attention to a tribe in crisis of abuse, rape and child rape.

Russell McDonald, whose credibility is shakier than an earthquake, is being promoted as the ‘voice’ of the tribe, when he is one of the abusers, one of the protectors of rapists and child rapists.

The Committee no longer wants to hear from those who have been whistleblowers. They no longer want to hear from those who were raped, abused or beaten as children. The message is that those who were raped as children have no credibility. Those who were raped as adults, have no credibility. You get that? Only the rapists have credibility.

Oddly enough, in this mix, with Betty Jo being slandered, falsely accused, libeled, and threats of violence to her, comes the Casey Foundation, which is supposed to be about protecting children, moving against her ever speaking in front of congress!

The Casey Foundation gets about $90-150Million per year from the government to do this mission they claim is about the children, are afraid of Betty Jo Krenz being heard in front of a congressional committee! WTF?? What are they?

Further, those in positions of power have pulled some very heavy strings. Not only has Betty Jo and her husband been ‘suddenly’ audited by the IRS (I wonder if this is why Lois Lerner (IRS) ‘accidentally recycled her hard drives? Auditing 501(c)3’s is to be expected given that so many violate the law by doing political work. But how many
"individuals" have been targeted because they are whistleblowers? Clearly, this is something very different. Something punitive. What does that sound like to you?

To me, it sounds like people in very high places, very deep into the bowels of our government, are very, very afraid of one woman, a farm wife, speaking. All she has ever done is told the truth.

There are some very powerful people afraid of the Truth. We need to hear her voice and the voices of the people of Spirit Lake who will speak the truth. Our members of Congress need to hear and respond to the information they bring.

The subcommittee has 14 members. All the GOP members want to hear the testimony. All of the Democrats on that committee, including Raúl Grivalja of all people, have decided to oppose her speaking and have disinvited her from the hearing.

We need to contact all of them at every office, even on their twitter accounts if you can find them, and demand they hear Betty Jo Krenz and the others, including Thomas Sullivan, because the children of Spirit Lake Nation have no one else in government who are willing to listen or speak for them.

If those children's stories cannot be heard, those children cannot be protected. If we cannot protect, with our big bad government, the most vulnerable children in that one tiny speck on our nation's map, we cannot protect children anywhere.

If we can't protect those children, we can't protect our children and this comes to our door--- And it will, absolutely, come to our door. “How did this happen??” Don't ask when it happens, because I just told you how it happens. It happens when we let those in government get away with blinding us to the truth, and we remain silent.

There are two ways you can make your voice heard: Contact all of those congressmen and especially the Democratic ones. I have attached a list of the members and how you have to contact them.

The other way is to donate to Betty Jo’s ‘Go Fund Me’ page: http://www.gofundme.com/a88sbs She’s asking for donations to make it so she can take people from Spirit Lake directly to Washington, DC to go knock on doors.

It might not do any good, especially if those doors she’s knocking on have not heard from you and other voters, telling them to listen and to respond. Make them answer to you. Make them answer to all of us. Make them answer for the horrific abuses they have covered up, danced around and pretended are 'being fixed'. Make them answer for protecting the child rapists on Spirit Lake Reservation.

Betty Jo has faced massive opposition from elements of government that are both corrupt and evil. She has been threatened, attacked, harassed, libeled, slandered, falsely accused of criminal acts in order to discredit her and to shut her up.
She can't do this without you. No one can. It's time for all of us to stand up, show up, and make the truth be heard.

No, I'm not done here. Vacation's over.

They've stalled long enough. They've threatened, harassed, lied about, attacked and slandered enough.

Your turn. Our turn. You know where to find them, and... it's time they know you see them for what they are.

Don't be quiet. Reach out and touch them, all of them. Make them know this is not going away and we are remembering who helped and even more, who got in the way.

Government is not the problem, corruption is. We need government. We don't need corruption. This is as good a place to start as any, in getting it out. It's the heart of the monster. This is where we strike. And this is where we keep striking until it reveals all of its sickening secrets.

I was this close (pinches thumb to forefinger) to ending this blog and tearing down the website. Now, I am more determined than ever. We need you now, more than ever. The kids need us. This is for all of us.

One woman is fighting for the kids while being attacked by the agents that should be protecting her, and protecting the kids. It's terrifying, but it is also very revealing: Whatever she has to say, they are terrified she will be heard. Let's see to it that she is heard. Let's see to it that the others who are with her, are ALL heard.

This is where we make a stand. We fight for those children or we, all of us, lose our future. If they can't discredit Betty Jo, they will try to kill her. They may even succeed. But this is a battle that must be fought. She has seen the children. She can't quit. It's costing her everything.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 19, 2014

The Audit Weapon

My suspicions about the IRS Audit of Betty Jo and her Husband is not unfounded. It would not be the first, nor even the thousandth time that the IRS was used to target individuals who are whistleblowers.

Keep in mind that Lois Lerner was installed as Director of the IRS back in 2001, when Dubya was king. Dubya’s regime was known for using non-political offices to promote political agendas. The USAGs scandal wherein no one who did not hold a certain, very skewed version of “Rights” was allowed appointments to either USAG positions or Federal/ Circuit Court judgeships.

Using the IRS as a weapon to silence individuals is nothing new. Back in the Day, Nixon figured that incumbency meant they could use all of these agencies as a means to deal with individuals who opposed their administration.

It always looks like ‘coincidence’ when a whistleblower gets audited. That is because the IRS won’t reveal what ‘triggers’ an audit, but apparently, as in Valerie Plame’s case, having your taxes in perfect order, was what drove the IRS into upending her finances and running her through hoops for months.

In the book, “Fair Game” which details how Valerie Plame was outed by the Bush/Cheney/Rove gang because, as a CIA spy with expertise in Middle East Countries, she tried to inform the White House that there were no “WMD’s”, no “Mobile Biological Weapons Labs” (To this day, I can’t believe anyone would be so stupid as to buy into something as bizarre as that, especially since Biological labs have to be so secure, even the slightest jostle of equipment could be disastrous. But no, using pictures of tankers/busses in the middle of the desert, no paved roads, was “convincing” to the mental giants in journalism) she describes her ordeal with the IRS audit.
She was trying to prevent the tragedy of war and presented accurate intel which infuriated Cheney, Rove and Dubya. She was trying to save American lives, and the trillions of dollars that wrong-headed war would cost our nation.

Further, she, and others who actually knew the history of the region and the dynamics of how those arbitrary national borders had been drawn, wanted to prevent the total collapse of the region, which was sure to happen if the keystones were abruptly removed.

Not only were the keystones removed, the corrupt dictators were replaced with even more corrupt, but more western corporation friendly, dictators. The Sectarian violence was inevitable. It was predicted. It was warned against.

For their part in trying to get the Truth out, and do it through legal channels, Valerie Plame, an active CIA agent at the time, was outed, her sources burned, she was then put under the full pressure of a government system that protects it’s own corruption by putting it’s foot on the necks of those who dare to speak out.

An Excerpt from “Fair Game”

It is true that bad news comes in threes. Shortly after learning about Rove, we received a stark form letter from the IRS informing us that our 2004 taxes would be audited. That’s a letter no one wants; neither one of us had ever been audited and we had no idea what to expect. I immediately contacted our accountant who had prepared our taxes for years.

According to Rich, there was nothing in our tax return that would have caused a red flag, no strange activity, no excessive income (that’s for sure). I am not conspiratorially minded, but after talking to Rich I really had dark thoughts about Nixonian “enemy lists”. Didn’t Nixon use the power of his office to unleash IRS audits on those he deemed be his enemies?

A 1971 memo from White House Counsel John Dean to a Republican businessman explains the purpose of the “list”: “This memorandum addresses
the matter of how we can maximize our incumbency in dealing with persons known to be active in their opposition to our Administration. Stated a bit more bluntly, how we can use the available machinery to screw our political enemies”

After several weeks, many hours of pulling paper and files, and two thousand dollars in accountant fees, we were completely cleared by the IRS. Our taxes were in perfect order.

My concerns that we were the targets of yet another political attack were strengthened several months later when we learned that a journalist friend of ours had been also singled out for an audit. He had just published a book highly critical of the Bush administration and it felt like payback.

But, then again, maybe the audits were just a strange coincidence.

_________________________________________________________________

Again, worth noting, Karl Rove was one of the Key advisors in Nixon’s Administration, as he was in Dubya’s administration and Lois Lerner was appointed by Dubya and kept on by Obama. Those tactics were probably practiced more often than we will ever know because Ms. Lerner destroyed all her hard drives recently. Oopsie!

I maintain the suspicion that the IRS was not illegally targeting political action committees, in fact, they should look more deeply into the finances of all of the political PACs. Further, it was more the “Liberal” organizations that were targeted on their 501(c)3 status. Not a single conservative organization lost their standing, but several liberal ones did.

I further maintain that the reason those hard drives were destroyed was not because of the 501(c)3’s that were in question, but what else would have been revealed in the specific targeting of individuals who were whistle-blowers.

The BIA has never, EVER been audited as an agency. Never. Not only do hundreds of billions of dollars go into that agency (unaudited, untracked), but also the wheeling and dealings of those within the agency who trade, sell, lease, buy, convey Federal lands to individuals and corporations, with no one checking to see how a ‘poor Indian’ can one day purchase a chunk of land that just happens to be adjacent to or part of either the Oil patch or the roads that lead to it, for a few dollars and
within 24 hours to a week, flip that same plot of land for hundreds of thousands of dollars to the oil companies or other straw buyers.

The BIA is the biggest, most out of control, most corrupt and wealthiest agency we have in our government. They answer to no one. They obey no laws. They can abuse and inflict suffering on people with absolutely no consequences or even investigation.

Further, their failures to even appear as if they are doing their job, go unquestioned.

The greatest injustices we have in Indian Country are constructed by the BIA, enforced by the lack of investigation on the part of the DoJ, and with help from the IRS, anyone that would dare point out child rapes, BIA systematic abuses and corruption, will be audited.

Yeah, we can say that these audits are ‘random’ and ‘coincidence’ except for the fact that they seem to come at a time when very powerful players in our government want to silence, disinvite, threaten, harass, libel and slander a farm wife who happens to care about the children she has seen suffering and who blew the whistle.

*Given the level of opposition and how high up in the Halls of our government the pressure has come to silence her, do you really think that this investigation would only reveal corruption on one small reservation, a speck on the map?*

Or have you figured out that what is being concealed here is something so huge that it is forcing those who are most threatened, those at the top of this politically powerful food chain, to use ‘the machinery of government’ to protect themselves and their allies?

It’s what they don’t want you to know that should alarm you. That’s why they are afraid to let Betty Jo or any of her witnesses, or even Thomas Sullivan speak out.

“…Stated a bit more bluntly, how we can use the available machinery to screw our political enemies.” Remember: Many of the same players are still in place. All of the agencies that work those levers in that machine, still there, still doing it.

A system so corrupt that it engages in child trafficking, child rape, has even more to hide from scrutiny.

Time to put the pressure on them. It’s time we find out what those powerful people have been doing to those kids, and to children everywhere, and what they have been doing to our Country, financially, morally and for how long.

It’s time we look at this, all of this, so we can begin to fix this and heal as a nation, and become strong once again.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 20, 2014
The Monsters & Monsters Behind the Scenes

Casey Family Foundation says their Goal is to cut numbers of children in Foster Care by 50% by 2020.

They institute policies throughout the nation that do not protect vulnerable children, but which rate them as needing foster care or not needing foster care, based almost entirely on how many children are in Foster Care and how they can keep those numbers down.

These policies and practices have substituted for common sense and child safety in every state, and the horror stories mount up, shock us sick, and “children fell through the cracks”. But these children did not fall through cracks. There are no cracks. There are multiple warnings, pleas from those who are related or living with or near these children to get them to safety.

The child’s situation is evaluated as if the child is a number, a unit that needs to be efficiently moved or stored, in much the same way as the organizations founder, who was the founder of UPS, would solve ‘logistical’ issues.

The primary goal is to keep children out of the system in any way possible. Reduce the already high number of children in the system, which would in fact remove children from safe homes returning them to unsafe, neglectful or violent/dangerous homes, in order to meet their ‘goals’.

When the story of one of the failures hits the news, it’s “fell through the cracks” — but there are no cracks. Only ignored reports, corruption, and greed and the repeated failed policies that protect the predators and experiment on the children. But there are no ‘cracks’.

That is the only explanation for how their policies, despite increasing failures and more and more brutal stories of child torment, torture, abuse, rape, murder, the agencies that are budgeted according to how they implement the Casey Foundation policies are the ones we should be looking at and how they managed to gain authority/control over so many states Child Protective Services.
Further, how can an agency that has an idea on how to treat children in Foster Care and reduce their numbers, be taken seriously, given hundreds of millions of dollars in Government Grants (tax free, kids) and yet have no background or degrees in Child Development or Child Care?

Of course, after the gory series in the Miami Herald, “Innocents Lost”, about children being horrifically abused and murdered in the Florida DCF system, all of whom “Fell through the Cracks” (which means there’s more cracks than foundation in those policies) Casey Foundation took no responsibility for their part in these repeated failures, but simply stated that it was unacceptable and that they were working on helping agencies change policies & procedures ….

For some reason now, Casey Foundation has decided to take an interest in Spirit Lake Nation. Not on the side of getting the information to the Congressional Subcommittee, but in paying all the Tribe’s expenses in sending Russ McDonald and Melissa Brady to speak before that committee, while former judge turned Child Advocate, Molly McDonald, who oversaw hundreds of badly handled, poorly investigated (most not investigated at all) cases of child abuse when she was Tribal Judge, has to fundraise on her own to get to that hearing, and even then, she may not be heard at all.

Those blocking the voices of the whistleblowers want instead, to send in speakers who will play poor Indian, and who have themselves been responsible for most of the failures that occurred on their watch, not out of lack of funds, but purely of overt corruption in their offices.

Note: Russell McDonald is currently blocking the arrest of a Level 3 Sex offender who has been raping a 15 yr old girl for over a year now. There are four warrants issued by Ramsay County, but the Tribe refuses to hand him over for arrest. The Tribal Chairman is refusing to allow a Level 3 Sex Offender to be arrested! Yes, he’s still raping that girl. This is the voice that Casey Family and the Subcommittee want to hear from? Someone who is actively protecting a known rapist?
But refuses to hear from Betty Jo Krenz? Her team of advocates? Or even Thomas Sullivan, Director of ACF, District VIII?

Casey Family is paying for a man who protects a Level 3 Sex Offender from arrest, to go to speak before congress. Does that sound like Casey Family wants to protect “Children”?

They hope to generate even more money to go to the services that these children need, despite the fact that the problem is that the money that was intended for these children all along, went into the pockets of the corrupt on the tribe, and without investigation into and arrests of those who robbed, forged and embezzled funds, putting additional funds into that tribe will only fatten the already corrupt at the expense of those same children.

There are 13 Mandated Reports that the BIA does not want mentioned in that hearing. 13 Mandated reports that were ignored by every level of government responsible: From Tribal Social Services, to the ACF, FBI and DoJ. Ignoring those reports has led to the brutal murder of one tiny little girl, Baby Laurynn Whiteshield, and the horrific ongoing torture and abuses of the children reported on by the Grand Forks Herald. Casey Family doesn’t want those reports heard either. Why?

So, the question is: Why is the Casey Foundation working to promote those who are the most corrupt, the most inept, and doing nothing for those who have investigated and who have risked career and more to get the information to law enforcement. Why is the Casey Foundation working to silence the voices that should be heard, and putting in place the voices that will, ultimately, fix nothing, but will raise loads more money?

Were the Casey Family Policies being practiced in Spirit Lake Nation? Is that what they are trying to protect? If so, how many other reservations have they been conducting this horrific experiment on and how much of our Tax Dollars have been given to them to self-promote at the expense and indeed, the lives of these children?
Why is it so important to Casey Family Foundation/Organization that no one who actually has reported the crimes, be heard?

Betty Jo Krenz is fundraising (http://www.gofundme.com/a88sbs) so that someone who has been advocating for these children can make the trip to Washington, DC hopefully to speak at that hearing. She has been threatened, intimidated, disinvited in order that she not relay her findings to this subcommittee. Suddenly, she is being ‘audited’ by the IRS in what appears at best, to be suspicious timing.

If we can’t raise enough funds to get a representative advocate voice to Washington, DC, the subcommittee, and those who sabotaged the purpose of it, will hear only lies, and the BIA will never be held accountable for their failures to investigate a single child rape reported to them. Nor will the DoJ.

More money will be promised to the corrupt and the Casey Family Organization will somehow benefit from all this in ways that will probably shock us all. But unless we can get an advocate in there, we won’t know until all of those responsible have died from old age. We need to know what they don’t want us to know.

No only is this abuse promoted by flawed policy instituted by a politically powerful foundation that takes hundreds of millions of our tax dollars every year, to ‘cut the numbers in half by 2020’, but it is also costing us those millions, and more in the horrific outcomes: murders, suicides, addictions, alcoholism, street life, violence as well as court systems and prisons.

Why there are people on that Subcommittee that do not want to hear the problem and the cause directly, but only sanitized, unsupported version, told by people whose own behaviors are at best, highly questionable.

The appearance of Casey Family on this scene is very revealing. They have enormous political influence (as is obvious from the decades of multi-million grants they get from government every year) is revealing. Their heavy handed tactics to push out Betty Jo Krenz, Thomas Sullivan and other tribal Child advocates, is even more revealing as to what their
real agenda is.

Clearly, regardless of their ‘stated’ mission, their goal is to silence the whistleblowers, prevent anyone from reporting these crimes against children. And they are spending their own money (our tax dollars) to be sure that the right voices are never heard on this.

Why? What are they afraid of? What is their stake in the BIA Failures that they have to use their political connections, all their political might, to silence the only voices that have been asking for justice for these children?

I think we need to look a lot closer at these ‘behind the scenes’ agents such as Casey Family, and how they gained their political power, what they are doing with our tax dollars, and who they promote and protect.

These shocking horror stories of child abuse despite multiple warnings, pleas and demands for investigation, are not going away. They’re getting worse. We see the incompetent agency heads depart from that job and fall immediately into another high paying political appointment, but nothing changes for the children except it gets worse.

But now we know, that behind the scenes of all these failures, all these bizarre policies of not removing children who are being abused until their in a body bag, behind all that is The Casey Family Foundation directing both policies and practices and our Federal and State Governments somehow not cluing in that the policies and practices they are promoting, are killing the kids, making the future for all of us, more insecure, more full of shock, horror and grief.

I think it is time to investigate Casey Family and what they have been doing and who has been writing them checks of our tax dollars, and investigate why they are fighting the very people who are reporting these crimes. Something just isn’t kosher here. Something really stinks.

They are not protecting the children, that much is clear. That means they are actively, in this case, protecting the abusers, rapists and those who
fail to investigate child rapes on the rez.

What kind of monster would do that?

Again I point out that with a heavy hitter like Casey Family joining in to obstruct investigation/reporting of these crimes, and with political power players all the way up in Washington, DC, I suspect that this is not just about Spirit Lake Nation. SLN is just a tiny speck on the map. But for some reason, people in very high places are horribly afraid that the story will be told. They are all connected.

*Casey Family is not protecting the children here. They are silencing those who are trying to report crimes against these children. Why?*

This is much bigger than that speck on the map. This is something much bigger, much uglier and it is connected to people in Washington, DC, and their friends in Casey Family. If this were an isolated problem, none of this would be happening. The opposition would be minor. Instead, it’s massive.

There is no other reason for them to be afraid of what Betty Jo Krenz has to say in a 5 minute presentation. Whatever it is she has to say, and which her fellow advocates have to say, and which Thomas Sullivan could support/substantiate has all of them scared to the point that they have made it a full court press, pulling out all the machinery of government intimidation at their disposal.

Yeah, this monster is very, very big. And it’s afraid of a farm wife. And it’s afraid you’ll know who it is and what it has been doing. Support [Betty Jo’s fundraising](#) to send an advocate to Washington, DC and then pray that that advocate finds the courage to speak the absolute truth and that she will be heard.

Let this monster know you have seen its fear, and you want to know more. Much more. The children have no voice and we have no future if we don’t unite on this and make it happen.
People often ask me: “What can I do to help?” Well, now you know. This is something you can do. Big or small. You can do it. Your dollar is your vote, your voice and your demand the truth be heard.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 23, 2014
Still Crazy After All These Years

Everyone real impressed that Lynn Crooks crawled out from under his rock to again claim he is a man of Truth and Justice? No, me neither.

I was going to let you all just read all the blogs I posted last week and not do a Monday Blog, but what the heck, some things just have to be answered.

Before we begin, I want to remind you all that there is the Indian Affairs Subcommittee Hearing tomorrow at 2:PM Eastern Time (Tuesday) streamed live for those who can’t get it on C-Span: And despite the opposition getting Betty Jo disinvited and not allowing her team of advocates to speak and report to that subcommittee; and despite several of the Top Dogs/Big Scaredy Cats weaseling out of their subpoenas, the hearing will go on.

Two of the main guests will be Chairman McDonald, who single-handedly is preventing the arrest of Suna Guy, who has four warrants out on him for child rape, and Suna Guy and Monty LeBeau are using the power of the BIA to keep him out of reach of the law in Ramsay County, (and that alone should tell you all you need to know about the credibility of either of those two) and the other main star attraction will be the ever self-promoting Melissa Brady, who is by far the most unqualified person ever to hold the job of Director of Tribal Social Services, which during this time of crisis, she treats as a part-time hobby, along with her other part-time hobby for which she is also not qualified, her job as Director of Victim’s Assistance.

Yes, there are absolutely more qualified people out there who could and would do a better job of it, but they have integrity, so they don’t meet the Tribal Council’s criteria for either job.

Rest assured, those who are so afraid of being asked a question that they weaseled out of their subpoenas also had a lot of help from people much higher up who are even more terrified that the reports of systematic corruption, child abuse, and even child trafficking, will be heard.

It ain’t easy to get out of a congressional subpoena. That’s a big clue as to how high up this goes and how much money (billions) is involved in this decades on corrupt system. It touches all parties, and it goes all the way to the White House. In fact, I suspect that back in the day, that is where it all began in the first place.

So, now on to the Mighty Mr. Crooks.

For those who were not there or do not remember, the prosecution’s case was not based on any evidence. In fact, they could not bring in a single drop of blood to prove their case. They relied totally on fictitious, scripted testimony by witnesses both extremely unreliable, as in Patricia Demarce/Sissy BigTrack who was diagnosed by her psychiatrist as a pathological liar, or as in the case of the Mindt brothers, torture and intimidation. They showed up in court with broken arms, noses, ribs and busted
jaw from the beatings inflicted upon them by James Yankton who, along with his brothers Quentin and Roger, were ‘protecting them as witnesses’ in a hotel room. The noise from the beatings was so bad and so disturbing that the hotel kicked them out.

There they were, seated in court, as a message to anyone that didn’t want to go along with the script.

Lynn Crooks said it was necessary to ‘get at the truth’. That should tell you all you need to know about Lynn Crooks.

He uses the term “Fanciful" in describing LaFuente’s earlier defense that Richard must have been killed in a hit & run, which was what the scene was staged to look like on that highway. It was such a bad staging, several people saw the Yankton Boys dragging Eddie’s corpse out of the back of the Blazer, and arranging it on the highway.

But Lynn contends that this was a mob beating, things just went out of hand… indeed it was a mob beating, but it was also planned… and also, it occurred at Celeste Herman’s home, not anywhere near the scene where his body was posed.

Crooks contends that all this drinking just made LaFuente go wild over some issue he had with Eddie Peltier. But there is no evidence to show that they even knew one another.

Further, this whole “The mob at Ski Jump Hill did it” scenario lacks something very basic: Blood. There was no blood anywhere near that scene and there was no blood on Eddie Peltier’s clothing. No dirt on the bottom of his shoes. The body was ‘damp' according the First Responders on the scene, but his clothes had no blood on them.

That has to be the cleanest, neatest, tidiest drunken mob beating on record! Especially since Crooks has the mob chasing Eddie through the trees, across the fields and finishing him off on the highway--- but without a single drop of blood or mud on his clothes or shoes.

I love how he again resurrected “The Death Car”. That must have really played well to the jury back then. But if they could have seen the notes that I saw in those police files as they were constructing this fictitious case to frame the 11 & 12 men for the murder committed by Yanktons, they would have called it a Clown Death Car, because at different points in the investigation, the prosecution had tried to put anywhere from 3-5 people in the front seat of that El Camino!

Lynn Crooks prosecution was so shabby, that Judge Comny called it “Abhorrent”. Especially the part about beating and torturing ‘witnesses’ to ‘get to the truth’.

Don’t worry. The Documentary is going to be made and the Truth will come out. Maybe those witnesses that Lynn Crooks had come forward to tell him what they saw and heard at Celeste Herman’s house that night, but he told them they were going ot
be “Star Witnesses” and not to talk to anyone, especially not the defense. He was going to bring them in at that classic “Perry Mason moment” and call them to the stand and point the finger directly at the real murderers, the Yanktons.

Those people sat out in that hallway, outside of the courtroom, for days, waiting for that “Perry Mason” entrance to be called. It never came. After it was over, when they found out they had been tricked into keeping quiet, they were told to just go home and forget about it. Maybe that will be in there as well? We’ll see.

Easy to convince a jury when the defense is not allowed to cross examine the key witnesses as they contradict and perjured themselves. Easy to convict when you conceal the real witnesses. "GIGO" Garbage in/Garbage Out. Jury got fiction and the people of North Dakota got swindled out of Justice. 11 men went to prison and one stayed there until earlier this month, based on those tactics.

Meanwhile, Lynn Crooks can continue to dig himself a deeper and deeper credibility hole. He had no evidence. Not a spec. Not a drop. He only had perjured testimony and that was his whole case.

And it was “Abhorrent”.

He should have been disbarred decades ago, but the system that protects him protects a lot of corruption, including Human Trafficking, Baby Selling, Child rapists, and more. He has nothing to be proud of. And he knows it.

The Truth is coming out and it is coming after those who committed these crimes, these murders, these tortures and the rapes. Obviously, their tree is shaking and the nuts are falling out, pretending they have nothing to hide---

But if they had nothing to hide, why would they need to dodge these subpoenas? Especially since they say it is so important to them that these child rapes, murders, abuses, be investigated? Why won’t they show up?

I can’t wait for the next Letter/Editorial on behalf of those who committed the greatest evils upon our lands and upon our people and upon our children. It makes them more visible and reminds us all of who they are and how they lie.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 26, 2014
Give 'em Enough Rope...

*Hearing Video Now posted*

I watched the Indian Affairs Subcommittee hearing Tuesday, and was not disappointed. It started about ½ hour late, so many of you may have tuned out.

There’s about 200 individual notes I took while watching, and it would make this posting about 50 pages deep, so I will just touch on a few of the highlights or lowlights, depending on how you look at it. Expect I will be touching back on this topic as time goes on, discussing more of the items or points of interest.

The first panel (there were two panels) consisted of Michael Black of BIA and Joo Yeung Chang of ACF and Anita Fineday of Casey Family Programs. The Second Panel consisted of Russell McDonald, Melissa Brady and Molly McDonald.

I recently learned that Casey Family Programs has been directing the policies and procedures in Indian Country, on the Spirit Lake Nation Reservation in particularly, since 2004, and throughout the USA in at least 20 states, including Florida, where the most recent year-long investigative series, “Innocents Lost”, exposed the horrific series of deaths of children in that state, who were forced by policies and practices, to remain with their abusers, despite multiple reports filed, multiple warnings. Casey Family considers ‘Foster Care’ to be an anathema, and that children should remain with their families. They base this on what, I have no idea, as many children raised in Foster Care, thrive, and no children forced to stay with their abusers, do well at all.

It was eye opening to realize that Casey Family Programs has had a hand in the horror stories of abuse, that have been coming to light, both in Spirit Lake Reservation and in the State of Florida.

There were several attempts, mainly by Representative Cardenas, (D) from California (Ranking Member), to dilute the urgency and alarming statistics coming out of SLN regarding clusters of child mortalities within the Social Services System, especially when he asked Ms. Fineday if there were instances of clusters of Child Deaths in other communities: “Oh yes!” she said, almost gleefully. I say that because she seemed so happy to be able to dilute the issue of Spirit Lake by making it appear as if it happens all over the country.

In fact, it does happen all over the country. It happens for the same reasons as it is happening in Spirit Lake: Flawed policies that embrace corruption and magical thinking over the care and safety of the child who is most vulnerable and at risk. In fact, if you track where Casey Family Programs have been directing policies and practices in at least 20 states, I am sure you will find very high numbers of child deaths, especially deaths of children where there were multiple warnings, (ignored) and multiple reports (also ignored), as they push their agenda of eliminating Foster Care, which they paint as the evil in the system.
One adherent to the Casey Family Programs in Florida, Esther Jacobo is on the record as saying that it is more traumatizing to remove a child from an abusive home than it is to leave them there.

“Maybe we got it backwards, in that we tried to reduce out-of-home care before having those safety services that are needed” —Miami Herald

Ya think?

And it happened repeatedly. It’s not that Casey Family Programs nor those agencies that are adhering to their philosophy, policies and practices, learned anything after the first or second horrific death of a child—nor even after the 100th child, nor all of those that followed... and that was just in 2009, when George Sheldon was Director of Florida’s DCF. George Sheldon later (earlier this year) said he had no clue that the problem was so big...

That’s what happens when an organization like Casey Family Programs is allowed to direct agencies and has the backing of Federal heavyweights in congress which gives them hundreds of millions of dollars every year, despite their growing record of abject failures and the failures of their policies and practices in every state and on every reservation in Indian Country.

So, when Representative Cardenas asked if there were other places where clusters of child deaths in the system happened, the answer was ‘of course’, because there is a philosophy driven system of policies and practices that are not based on real world outcomes, only on personal agenda.

Yes, Mr. Cardenas, it happens in other places. It happens in other states. But the per capita of child deaths from abuse, neglect, in fact, the per capita incidents of child rape, child abuse, child neglect is several times higher on the reservations. That is what you should be focusing on, fixing that, not excusing it as if nothing can be done to change the outcome.

You change the outcome by changing the input and Direction. Something no one at the head of the ACF, BIA, HHS wants to even consider.

First thing that needs to change is removing Casey Family Programs from every agency that deals with children, all across the country, and especially in Indian Country and right now, in Spirit Lake. They fail and children die. Keeping CFP in any capacity is defying the very premise of change and improvement.

The first question every journalist, every elected official should ask when investigating the death of a child in Social Services System should be: “Is your agency affiliated in any way with Casey Family Programs?” It’s time those statistics were connected to that organization, not just to the agencies who follow their
policies, procedures and adhere to their philosophy, and who take the fall when media takes note (and then it happens again, again, again, because the same bus is going the same route with the same driver, regardless of crashes).

Casey Family Project sucks millions of Tax Dollars away from programs such as Foster Care, that are drastically needed, and then demonize them for being inadequate, concealing their own track record of failures the entire time. It's time we removed them as Third Party leech and restore that funding to the Foster Care families to insure that there will be refuge for children who are abused or neglected. It's long past time.

Mr. Cardenas also seemed bent on demonizing Thomas Sullivan for some reason. Thomas Sullivan was forbidden from attending that subcommittee hearing by Marrianne McMullen, who also has forbade him from corresponding with, talking to, communicating in any way with anyone in congress, law enforcement, or Tribal Leadership.

With a gentle leading question to Russell McDonald, he got Russell McDonald to portray Thomas Sullivan as someone who does not know how to report crimes against children. McDonald claims that he wrote a letter to Sullivan asking him to come to the reservation to help them remedy the issues on that reservation, but that he never heard back from him:

“No letter?” asked Cardenas.

“No letter,” responded McDonald.

“No email? No phone call?” Cardenas continued.

“Nothing” said McDonald. And he looked sad and offended at being ignored by Thomas Sullivan.

Cardenas pointed out and Russell agreed that it was his job as Director of District 8 to respond and assist, “And we are in District 8,” Russell said, looking even more offended and wounded that Sullivan would be so derelict in his duties…

Cardenas showed contempt and irritation that Sullivan had ignored such a basic part of his job.

“I even offered him a job!” Russell said, (really getting into his role). “‘Come to Spirit Lake’ I told him, ‘come to work for us!’ and all he said was ‘I can’t at this time,’ “… Cardenas was now very irritated at Sullivan.

Well, that was quite a show! But sadly, none of it was true. It was just a hit job on Sullivan with no basis in truth.

True, Russell McDonald did write a letter requesting Thomas Sullivan come to the reservation to help them out--- dated January 26th 2014 and received February 3rd
by Thomas Sullivan, who was not allowed to respond to the request, forbidden by Marrianne McMullen who wrote the response to Russell McDonald declining to allow Sullivan to go to SLN. That letter was dated February 5th 2014

So, Russell McDonald’s painful recollection of how he was ignored and not responded to, came from his fevered brain, and was in fact a lie.

I’m not even going to touch the “I even offered him a job” comment. Yes, yes I will. Given that the tribe can’t keep qualified staff because of corruption, and that corruption continues unabated. Since all the Social Services Workers and Staff who did their job were harassed, threatened and fired, it’s not likely Sullivan, who has been very critical of the corruption, would jump at a job to become an employee of the Tribe… as good as that sounded at the hearing. I personally doubt that the conversation Russell McDonald related at the hearing, ever happened. He’s not a truthful person. Not to his people, not to the subcommittee. Cardenas was happy with his responses.

But I watched and Chairman Young and Representative Cramer, just let the panelists speak, regardless of how insipid or ridiculous what they were saying was.

I caught on that maybe they were giving them “enough rope…”

That was not the only series of lies coming out of Russell McDonald’s mouth, but it will do for now. We have more fish on the griddle.

More Rope

Melissa Brady had no answers for anything regarding either job she holds. She showed up with absolutely no knowledge of any statistics or even the cases she supposedly handles.

She did respond to a question about a case where a BIA Tribal Officer had severely beaten his wife.

She stated that the victim had outed herself by telling her husband she had reported him. “I did my job,” Melissa said. But she did not say what she did.

As I recall that case, the BIA Officer’s wife was assigned to the caseworker on Melissa’s staff, who was at the time, having an affair with that same married BIA Officer, and was about 7 months prego with his child.

The victim protested that she was put in more danger because of this, and that the worker was mocking her, insulting her, threatening her. The victim ended up with no funds, no safe home and no provisions for her safety being made, and by having her case revealed to the man who was beating and abusing her and the grandchildren who lived with them.
That was how Melissa twisted this. She assigned the victim to the husband’s girlfriend, and then claims that the wife self-reported to the husband, who then beat her some more.

Melissa Brady has had a troubled relationship with the Truth for a very long time.

Her comment regarding the 100 children missing and unaccounted for in the system was jarring: “The good news is, we know that 66 of those children are safe.” Not a word about the 34 children who they have no idea where they are or if they are safe.

Oh, and “one very complicated case”, that they don’t know what to do about. Hmmmm…

The committee asked several of the participants to deliver to them supporting documentation for the statements they made. Good luck with that, y’all.

Russell McDonald claimed that “Bad Publicity” is key to them not being able to hire qualified people into Social Services.

It’s not ‘Bad Publicity’ it is accurate reporting, that is the problem. No one wants to work where if they do their job, they will be threatened, intimidated, abused, or even fired. The Tribal Council has done nothing to rectify the abuses and the wrongful terminations of staff who were fired for doing their job. Until that changes, people are not going to risk life, limb, reputation and income working in a place where corruption is unabated, and there are no consequences for abusers.

The Brightest Light

The best of that entire hearing began when Molly McDonald began reading her statement to the committee. It was gripping. It was truthful. And it was courageous. In fact, during her questioning and responses were brutally truthful. Molly McDonald even stood up to tell the truth about the documents being shredded, “from 8 AM until 10 PM” for over a week, during the time that the BIA Strike Team was on the scene.

Shredding documents is how the BIA ‘solves’ the problem of child abuse, child rape, child murders. Remember: This was their ‘Strike Team’.

I saw in Molly McDonald, a woman very much on the road to redemption. It takes courage to tell the truth, especially when it goes against your own family member who holds great power and influence in that community.

Families, especially families out there, on the rez, where no matter what your family does; be it rape, murder, theft, they are your world out there on the rez. You never say anything bad about your own family member. You lie for them. You cover for them. And they do the same for you.

Only one other case did I know of where a man’s son got drunk and committed a murder. “I know what he did was wrong. I am ashamed to the core of everything
that I am that he did such a horrible thing. But I will go to court with him. I will stand by him as he admits his guilt and I will visit him in prison until the day I die."

That letter moved me to tears, years and years ago. I had not seen anyone with that level of integrity since. I've seen people cover for their own family members while condemning others for the same or lesser crimes.

A woman who stood out on the highway with her children holding signs “What about the Children?” to draw attention to the child abuse on the rez, went silent when her family was involved in a child murder.

In the end, no matter how vile, how evil the behavior of a family member, you stand with them to deny and defy until the very end of time. That’s how it is out there.

But there was Molly. I have not been kind to Molly over the years. I still have issues I’d like to see her own up to. But nothing, NOTHING prepared me for the courage, the absolute truthfulness and the clarity with which she spoke, not just from her written statement, which was allowed to run overtime because it was so compelling, and which will be read in its entirety into the record of that hearing, but also in her directly addressing the fact that her brother is not someone the Tribe trusts.

Molly, my hat's off to you.

This is what this project is about. People standing up, regardless of past and regardless of present or future consequences, and telling the truth.

Don’t stop. Your strength is going to grow and grow the more you speak the truth. There is more that will change by telling the truth than ever could be changed by keeping silent.

I was impressed. When the truth comes out of the mouth of one of the last people you expect to hear it from, you know the time has come for the truth to be told.

Others will also find their courage. The Truth is where the real power resides.

Evil, darkness, wickedness loses all its power to control a person when that person tells the truth.

I don’t expect anyone to be perfect. I am not perfect. I only expect that people will see that the Truth is the only way the pain stops and we can heal as a nation.

Once you start telling the truth, you can’t stop, and no one can stop you. You have the power. The light comes on.

This isn’t over. It has just begun.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
June 30, 2014
Built on Lies

The parade of lies delivered to the Indian Affairs Subcommittee was laughable on several levels. I’m sure that the liars all felt comfortable lying. They’d been doing it all their lives. There has never been any consequence for their lying, and no one ever asked them to prove what they were claiming.

The laughable part was that they felt safe because they were not under oath… not that being under oath would have made a difference to them.

Melissa Merrick-Brady’s performance was among the most absurd. Three years ago, Betty Jo Krenz gave a list of 134 children not accounted for in Social Services. It was not until a month or so ago that anyone in Social Services decided to start looking for the children. But first, they arbitrarily lopped off 34 names with no accounting for why.

That left “only 100” as Ms. Brady proudly declared, and so far, they’ve located 66 that are ‘safe’, a few that had to be removed because they were abused/in danger and one that is so complex they don’t know what to do about it.

She was proud of those numbers. Yes! Only about 30 something children they have no clue where they are or how they are, did not disturb her a bit. The children that were removed from dangerous homes had been in them for over 3 years with no one looking or caring. Really something to be proud of! The other 30? Who cares! They found a majority of them so why quibble over numbers?

Again, her ridiculous premise that the woman who was beaten by her BIA Agent husband and had to be hospitalized, then turned around and told her husband that she turned him in, and that was the reason that Ms. Merrick-Brady did not provide services or assistance, is beyond stupid.

For one thing, even if she had told her husband, she was still entitled to services. Or does Ms. Brady not understand the concept of spousal abuse and assistance?

But we all know that is not what happened. We know that Melissa, out of pure spite, assigned the victim to the very staff member who was having an affair with the husband and who was at the time, 7-8 months pregnant with his child. The beatings, torment, abuse increased substantially after that.

By the way, the husband? He’s still a very special BIA Agent. Still has his gun and badge and still has the support of the entire BIA and the FBI. The woman? She’s destroyed. It’s only a matter of time before he beats her to death and claims it was “natural causes”. BIA will back him on that. They always do. He’s also a rapist. So are his brothers. That’s the caliber of agent the BIA likes to keep.

Gentle Reminder: Those 134 missing children? A large percentage of those children went through an ‘en mass Hunka Ceremony’ to ‘cement’ the fake adoptions. The fake
paperwork that was done was refused signature by Pete Belgarde. Even crazy Pete would not sign off on that. Those documents were among the first to be shredded by the BIA Strike Team.

It’s becoming more and more clear that the BIA Strike Team was not sent in to rescue the children who were clearly in danger and not those illegally adopted (sold) via a Hunka Ceremony--- they came in to help cover up the crimes.

It’s time to mention that ICWA did nothing to prevent these children from being sold off by their own tribal leadership. ICWA protects the tribe, not the children. It needs to be drastically rewritten.

*How much did you get for every child you sold, Kevin? Whom did you have to split the proceeds with? Oooh, if only I was asking the questions when you are called up before the next Indian Affairs Subcommittee! I’m sure Mr. Cardenas (D), California, will do his best to protect you, but even he can’t hold back the tide. It will splash back on him and he has a career to think about. You have a lot to think about too, Toy Story. The clock is ticking.*

Mr. Black, of the BIA told his share of lies. Mainly that all the Mandated Reports had been thoroughly investigated… which considering the death of one child on that report and the House of Horrors revealed in the Grand Forks Herald on several other children that were in those reports, one has to wonder what he meant by “Thoroughly” or “Investigated”. We know for a provable fact that not a single report was investigated.

Further, the 100/134 missing children were also listed in those reports. With three of them having been removed from dangerous homes a mere three years later, how thoroughly investigated were those reports, again? Those children underwent abuse and torture because no one in the BIA, FBI or USAG’s office did their job.

Now, about those 30-60 children still missing and unaccounted for? How does that square with the “thoroughly investigated” part of Mr. Black’s testimony? Again, neither “Investigated” nor certainly “thoroughly” apply.

And children died, children were abused while the corrupt focused all their energy, all their political will, all their authority, on silencing those who spoke the Truth. They attacked and have been trying to silence those who have, at great personal risk, have kept speaking out to stop the abuse of these children in this one small speck on the map.

Makes you wonder about what government has become, doesn’t it?

Well, Mr. Black and Ms. Brady have until tomorrow to provide the Indian Affairs Subcommittee members with documentation to back up their statements. I hope they are really good at forging. Even that won’t fly.
As a side note here: Betty Jo Krenz was prevented from speaking at that hearing because those with the political clout pushed her off the panel. They did it to protect those whose lies are right now, crumbling like stale cookies, on the ground. But she was able to give a written statement that is being included in the record of that hearing. When that is published, I will link to it.

It is because of her efforts, her advocacy, and her pushing that there was that hearing to begin with. Those who tried to silence her have failed.

Molly McDonald’s courageous act of telling the absolute truth to that committee was a sign to me that the Lies are crumbling. People who have kept secrets and kept silent are now sickened by the lies, the secrets and the silence, and it has to be opened up. The Truth has to be spoken, heard, and known. It cannot be kept buried any longer.

When someone from that family finds that kind of courage, and is that strong, there is a bright light beginning to shine, at long last, in that darkest of dark places. If anyone is looking for “Good News” about Spirit Lake, look to where the light is beginning to shine.

Small Note to Kevin Dauphinais, Dennis Meier, Kristy Wishinsky… this isn’t over. You are very much on the radar, and you will have to answer for what you have done. Those lies told by others at that hearing are merely laying the path that leads right to you all. Especially that ‘complicated’ issue that Ms. Brady is so perplexed by. I wonder if that is the same placement that Ms. Wishinsky was so proud of when she did her ‘feel good’ interview with the now retired Fargo Forum prose writer, Chuck Haga awhile back. He didn’t bother to look at her criminal history of child abuse when he did the cream puff article on her back then. Maybe it will surface in the follow-up hearings? We’ll see.

She didn’t just neglect her children, she was vicious. Her children were removed from her for their own safety. Kevin Dauphinais hired her on as a Social Worker. Yeah, and now you have a teensy-weensy idea of how corrupt that department has been for a very long time. The BIA could have stepped in, but they were just as happy with her as Kevin was. I’m wondering if it was for the same reasons?

The Best For Last

It would appear that Russell McDonald’s ridiculous lies about Thomas Sullivan did not go unnoticed by Mr. Sullivan who took the time to respond to Mr. McDonald in writing. Read it here.

I’m sure that he will have equally as much to say over Ms. Joo Yeung Chang’s testimony. She seemed to think Mr. Sullivan should not be allowed to testify as a Director of ACF, Region 8, but only as a personal opinion, as in a ‘hobby’ or something. She also misrepresented Mr. Sullivan’s level of involvement and interaction with the Tribe. She stated he had not been on the reserve since 2006, and then, just the one visit. He’s been there a total of 6 times and his involvement has
been intense, despite Joo and the others in the ACF seeking to marginalize and
demonize him for daring to report abuses and corruption.

And now, for the Jamestown Sun Editorial. It was the clear that the Jamestown Sun is
not fooled by Russell McDonald’s whining that “Bad Publicity” and “Lack of Funds”
reasoning behind the failings of his leadership, the tribal Council’s failures and the
failures of Tribal Social Services and the BIA. My favorite line was: “Throw money
down a rat hole, you still have a rat hole.”

Corruption is the “Rat Hole”. Nothing changes until that corruption is removed and the
corrupt meet Justice. Anything less and it’s just painting over deep, festering rust. It
will only get worse and fail more until that happens.

Show the Good People of Spirit Lake Nation that there will be Justice and that
community will rise and heal and thrive beyond anyone’s expectation.

No community can be anything but sick as long as the corrupt are not punished, and
the corruption is protected. Not your community; not my community and not any
community in Indian Country.

Fix it in this one small place and prove to the nation that the corrupt in that small
speck on the map are not more powerful than all the US Government Combined. Or
fail to fix it in that one small place and show the world that we bend to the whims of
the corrupt, regardless of what great speeches we give.

Either show the world that we can and will protect these children in this small place or
admit that we can not, will not, protect children anywhere. This is where it shows.
This is where everyone is looking. This is the proof, either way.

And there is a bright light beginning to shine in that dark corner of Indian Country.
That bright light is causing the corrupt to shield their eyes and back away, hoping we
don’t see them for who they are, what they have done. That bright light reveals more
and more and it will soon enough, reveal all.

That which has been built on lies, cannot long endure the Truth which erodes the
pillars, brings down the walls.

Those whose silence has allowed the lies, the corruption, the injustice and the
suffering of the children, will find their courage and tell of what they know. They will
become stronger. They will not be silent ever again.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
Good Morning-

Please see the information below from Jerry Gardner, who is one of the TTA providers for the Children’s Bureau and an addendum from Sue Settles at DIO/BIA. In summary, three pieces of info are noted, (1) Casey Family Services will fund a position that will work half time with DOI and half-time with HHS/ACF on major tribal human services areas; (2) the Commissioner for ACYF, Brian Samuels announced his resignation last Friday and he will become the Executive Director of the Chapin Hall Center for Children in Chicago. So, he is going home; and (3) BIA in Washington is posting a Child Welfare specialist position to concentrate on tribal child welfare issues. This position has been vacant for some time and is critically needed. If you know anyone who might be interested, please have them to see the posting information below and go to USAJOBS.

Thanks,
Marilyn

From: Kennerson, Marilyn (ACF)  Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 01:26 PM  To: ACF - Region08 Denver  Subject: FW: changes at ACF: our own Gina Jackson takes Casey position at ACF/BIA and Bryan Samuels resigns as of Friday the 13th of September

From: Settles, Sue [mailto:sue.settles@bia.gov]  Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 8:01 AM  To: Rose M. Orrantia  Cc: Jerry Gardner; Abby Abinanti (aabinanti@gmail.com); Anita Fineday (via Casey) (afineday@casey.org); Art Martinez (chumash54@yahoo.com); Barbara Jones (bargsn@nc-cherokee.com); ching king; Cora Max Phillips (emaxx_phillips05@hotmail.com); Daryle Conquering Bear Crow (daryleconqueringbear@yahoo.com); Dee-Bigfoot@ouhse.edu; Denise Altwater (wabanakidd@pioneerwireless.net); Ed Reina (reina.edward@comcast.net); Ella Anagick (eanagick@alaska.com); Elsie Boudreau; evie@ronan.net; garrowc@yahoo.com; Gina Jackson; Jill Tompkins (via Casey) (jtompkins@casey.org); Judge William Thorne; judgeduran@hotmail.com; lechohawk@comcast.net; Louise.Reyes@bia.gov; Mary McNevis (mmcnevins@yahoo.com); Pat Riggs; ReneeM@mhanation.com; Tom Lidot (TomLidot@pacific-mtn.com); cariwat1@yahoo.com; Carlette Randall; Connie Bear King; Emily Koenen; Karen Hamilton; lorrainebrave@yahoo.com; Marla Big Boy (mjbigboy@live.com); Nadja Jones (personal) (nadja.jones47@gmail.com); patty_laplant@hotmail.com; rebekah_main@yahoo.com; rmendoza@standingrock.org; Sandy WhiteHawk; Steve Preister; Susan Quash-Mah;
Elizabeth; Joe Walker; Kathy Deserly; Terrilena Dodson; Ann Deaton; Cathryn Potter; Deb Painte; Jessica Allen; Kim Just; Maria Alidio; Naomi Miguel; Robin Leake; Sandra Bercier (NATI) (sandrab/nativeinstitute.org); Stacie Hanson; Hankie Ortiz; Kennerson, Marilyn (ACF); West, Eileen (ACF) Subject: Re: changes at ACF: our own Gina Jackson takes Casey position at ACF/BIA and Bryan Samuels resigns as of Friday the 13th of September

Dear All,

Speaking from within one of those bureaucracies, we are very pleased and optimistic within BIA to have this partnership formalized with Casey Family Program and ACF. We initially were planning for the placement to be strictly within BIA, but when the opportunity came up at ACF, it seemed "golden". Now, with the selection of Gina Jackson, we know we have someone who has great potential for bringing together many of the possibilities that a collaboration at this level holds. Our Assistant Secretary Washburn has supported this idea from the beginning and it is great to finally see this become a reality. I will be here to welcome Gina on board, as well as our Courts Director Tricia Tingle. We see such possibilities and can't wait to see where we can go with this. It is great to see the support from the Advisory Board on this move and we are very grateful to Anita Fineday and Casey Family for doing the work to make this happen!

Meanwhile, I have been given permission to advertise and fill the essential Child Welfare Position in the Central Office BIA. We are looking for a Social Worker who has direct experience both with ICWA and providing child protection services. Please contact me if you have an interest in this job. I will post the USA JOBS on our listserv here and will count on all of you to help recruit some great candidates for us. The position will be a GS-0185 12/13 and will be filled at the level of experience the best candidate possesses. Keep your positive thoughts together for our move to effect positive changes with the support of our BIA Leadership and Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs.

Susie
Sue Vaughan Settles, MSW  
Chief, Division of Human Services  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Washington, DC  
202-513-7621  
202-208-2648 (fax)

On Sat, Aug 3, 2013 at 1:02 PM, Rose M. Orrantia  
<rmorrantia@gmail.com> wrote:  
Already sent my best wishes to Gina. I expect those bureaucracies will be seeing a lot more of one another than they ever thought possible cause our Gina will make sure of it and they will enjoy it cause she will make it not only productive but fun!! Casey Family, what a coup!

M.

Rose-Margaret Orrantia, MS  Consultant Pacific Mountain Philanthropy  858-675-4442

On Fri, Aug 2, 2013 at 6:06 PM, Jerry Gardner <jerry@tlpi.org> wrote:  
Congratulations to our own Gina Jackson who was offered position at Casey Family Programs through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) to be embedded 1/2 time under Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn, Department of the Interior, Indian Affairs and 1/2 time under Acting Assistant Secretary George Sheldon, Administration for Children and Families. It is an opportunity which will allow her to bring two large federal agencies together strengthen communication, cooperation, and collaboration with a focus on Native children and families. I cannot think of a better person for that position. If Gina cannot get these two
bureaucracies to work together, then no one can…..

Also: Bryan Samuels announced today that he is resigning as Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACF) effective Friday the 13th of September 13th. He has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago.

Regards,
Jerry

Jerry Gardner, Executive Director Tribal Law & Policy Institute 8235 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 211 West Hollywood, CA 90046 (323) 650-5467 ~ Fax: (323) 650-8149
So now we see even more of the inner workings of the beast. Casey Family Foundation and it’s ties to ACF and BIA. Read the attached correspondence gleefully heralding the fact that Casey Family Foundation is ‘making a position for’ a former insider with ACF. Notice use of the word “golden” (as in lots and lots of gold) and this phrase from Marilyn Kennerson, head of the Children's Bureau:

> Already sent my best wishes to Gina. I expect those bureaucracies will be seeing a lot more of one another than they ever thought possible cause our Gina will make sure of it and they will enjoy it cause she will make it not only productive but fun!! Casey Family, what a coup!

A “coup” indeed. In fact, I would call it an almost complete overthrow of integrity. Remember: Their goal, as revealed by their actions, despite their statements, over the decades has been to protect their money scheme. The more children are abused and the more shocking the murders, the more funding they get to ‘work on it’. In other words: The more their policies and practices fail, the more money they get from government to ‘fix’ it.

More money means more political clout, means more influence and less opposition and no investigation or oversight. Yes, a ‘coup’ indeed!

The Casey Family Foundation (CFF from here on out) is a mega-million dollar organization that is tax exempt. It is where the founder of UPS put his money, and installed his family members as Board Members, in order to not have to pay taxes on hundreds of millions of dollars in income over the years.

Not one of the founders nor their Board members had any degrees or qualifications in Childhood Development, or any medical/psychological degrees.

This was strictly a vehicle to shield profits from taxes. As such, one of the biggest investments the CFF has is the shares of UPS stock that it owns. That makes the profits from those shares, tax exempt.

They choose as their mission, the most vulnerable among us: Abused and battered children and their goal is not to protect these children, but to remove more and more of them from the system by keeping them in the very homes that abuse them.

They have now, formally tied the knot with the ACF and BIA by hiring on Gina Jackson, formerly of the ACF, by creating a position for her.

This is why it matters what happens in Indian Country and to these children. You may or may not have made the connection between the horrors revealed by The Grand Forks Herald articles on the abuses of the children who were forced to live in a torture environment (beatings, eyes taped open all day, taped shut all night, sexual abuse) because Tribal Social Services wanted them placed with family so they would
not be in the system and that left more money for their various directors to do with as
they pleased, with no accounting and no oversight; and the horrific stories of abuse
and murders of children in Florida in the Miami Herald’s investigative exposé,
“Innocents Lost”.

Children on the rez and children off the rez are subjected to horrors, torture, abuse
and too many are murdered because, for some reason, all these agencies seem to
follow the same policies and protocols that leave children without rescue. Now we
know that the reason they all follow the same protocols is because of political
influence of the CFF, which gets over $100Million/year in government grants (also tax
exempt, to add to their pile of profits that are tax exempt) to create and direct policies
and protocols of every agency that is Federal or State funded.

They are not there to protect children. They are there to protect profits and political
power players. We have seen by the most recent move by CFF to silence those who
would speak at the upcoming (June 24th) Congressional Subcommittee Hearings, and
they put in place and put their full support behind those who have the least possible
credibility, and in fact, are behind the corruption that has led to so many children
being abused and murdered on the rez.

Melissa Brady, with no training or education in either the fields of Victim’s Assistance
or Social Work, is now the head of both of those departments. You can’t find her at
either desk most of the time, and her decision making has been predicated on who is
her friend and who is her enemy. If she likes you, you get a check and if she doesn’t
like you, you and your children and grandchildren must remain with the relatives that
beat and rape you. It’s that simple. Melissa Brady uses the Emergency Credit cards
that are intended to help victims of abuse and violence to go shopping for clothes,
and to pay her own personal bills. “I too, am a victim,” she says, “so I can do this.”
It’s important to note here that there is absolutely no record of her suffering abuse
either as a child or as an adult, so we only have her fairy tale to go by, and it is a
story that sounds very similar to that of one of the victims she has failed to help. My
guess is that she stole that story as her own to justify stealing the Emergency Credit
Cards as her own.

CFF is paying all her expenses to go to Washington, DC where her main goal is to
slam Betty Jo Krenz and ‘silence her once and for all.’ Note, she is not there to get
help for these children, but rather to exhibit a personal vendetta against a woman
who has been battling to get protection for these children and investigations into who
was responsible.

In Fact, these hearings are a direct result of Betty Jo Krenz’s efforts, and CFF has
pulled all their political power into play to shut Betty Jo and her team of advocates
and witnesses OUT of the hearings.

CFF is also fully behind and supporting Chairman Russell McDonald. Russell
McDonald is protecting a known child rapist, Level 3 sexual offender, from arrest.
Ramsay County has four warrants out for Suna Guy for raping, multiple times, at
least one girl, possibly more. Suna Guy’s family was recently involved in the murder of Laurynn Whiteshield, who was brutally abused (along with her twin sister and other children) and then murdered in a horrific scene where she was kicked, thrown down a ravine and the grandmother ordered her other children and grandchildren to kick her to death.

They tried initially to say that it was a case of SIDS. They say “SIDS” a lot out there.

But these are the people that Casey Family Foundation is supporting. CFF can’t afford to have their gravy train, the ACF, IHS, BIA and HHS, all of whom back the multi-million dollar grants every year that go directly to CFF, under scrutiny.

CFF is fighting to save it’s multi-billion dollar scheme. Betty Jo Krenz, her witnesses and advocates are fighting to save the children. The voices that need to be heard are the voices that tell the story of what has been happening to those children, and which tell how it happened and what needs to change. But the only voices that CFF and their powerful procurers at ACF, BIA, IHS, HHS want to hear, are the voices that will continue to protect those very powerful moneyed interests.

Will Russell McDonald even be sober at the hearing? I doubt it. But there will be excuses made on his behalf.

Expect Melissa Brady to cry about how ‘insulted’ she is and has been.

Russell and Melissa are going to Washington, DC to silence the voices that are fighting for the children of the rez. If they succeed at doing that, they also silence the voices of those who would point out that the children of Florida, and every state where CFF policies and procedures are mandated by the Federal government and funding for those agencies is contingent upon how rigorously they adhere to those insane policies are.

It’s the same people driving the agenda that leads to more child abuse, more child rape and more child murders both on and off the rez, in every single state where CFF has influence.

The marriage of the ACF, BIA and CFF needs to be examined, investigated in detail. That won’t happen if the truth about the BIA and the ACF is not told at this critical Congressional Subcommittee Hearing.

Continue to contribute and donate to the GoFundme (Save the Children of Spirit Lake) project that Betty Jo Krenz has set up. Even the smallest donations help. This project will not end until the Truth is told and the Investigations completed. Your help is the only way it happens. Those who have already donated, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I know that it means everything to Betty Jo and her team to know that you are standing with her on this, in anyway you can.
Betty Jo Krenz has not stopped fighting for the children of Spirit Lake Nation. In that fight also rests the fate of children all over the country, regardless of whether they are in Indian Country or down the street from where you live.

You know where to find me.

~Cat
Good morning distinguished members of Congress. My name is Molly McDonald. I sincerely appreciate the time and attention you give me today to listen to my testimony regarding these important issues on Spirit Lake Reservation; child protection and the tribal justice system.

I am enrolled member of the Spirit Lake Tribe. I was raised on the Spirit Lake Reservation. I graduated from the reservation high school in 1987. I enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1988 and I was honorably discharged in 1992 during Operation Desert Storm. I earned my associate degree in Criminal Justice in 1997 from United Tribes Technical College. I went on and earned my bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice at Minot State University in 2000 while working full time at the North Dakota State Penitentiary as a corrections officer. I was hired in October of 2000 as U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Officer for the District of North Dakota in the Devils Lake office. I was specifically hired to work with my home reservation. I worked with this agency for almost 10 years where I gained a vast knowledge of the federal justice system and the investigation process from the police report to a conviction. In February 2010, I was appointed as the Associate/Juvenile Judge for the Spirit Lake Tribal Court. My appointment ended in March of 2012.

When I accepted the appointment as Associate/Juvenile Judge in February 2010, I was already aware of incidents of negligence which involved both BIA Law Enforcement and SLTSS in federal cases from my employment with U.S. Probation. One example of this is our office was supervising a juvenile from Spirit Lake. We were required to do a home contact with the juvenile at a minimum of once a month. Every home visit, the juvenile was locked inside of his home from the outside. We had to visit with the juvenile through the window. Because we were mandated reporters, we filed a 960 after each visit. The 960 was filed with Ramsey County Social Services in Devils Lake. Ramsey County Social Services sent the 960 on to Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services. Over and over again, the child continued to be locked in the home. Our office contacted the director of Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services Kevin Dauphinais and told him of the situation. He said he would begin investigating immediately. It should be noted the mother of this particular juvenile also worked at Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services. The child remained locked in the home throughout his supervision. This
juvenile was released from supervision upon his 18\textsuperscript{th} birthday. He later shot and killed his aunt and then himself.

When I began my appointment, there were issues with BIA Law Enforcement which included not filing paperwork in a timely manner, not filing complaints and/or police reports, not showing up for trials, not completing investigations, and other problems. The Court contacted Elmer Four Dance with the Aberdeen Regional Office along with Marcus Babbit and Mario Redlegs and a meeting was held at the Court with these individuals along with officers from the Fort Totten Police Department. The meeting appeared to be successful with all BIA Law Enforcement present promising better work from their officers. However, problems continued to happen and the Court continued to document these issues through emails. Upon leaving the Court in March of 2012, the issues with BIA Law Enforcement were not resolved. In February 2014, I had a meeting with the tribal prosecutor, Joe Vetsch. Mr. Vetsch stated to me that there had been no improvements with BIA Law Enforcement since the time I had left the Court. In fact, at that time, there were 3 alleged rapes that occurred within 6 months that were reported directly to Mr. Vetsch by the victims because BIA Law Enforcement did not complete any reports or investigation in the cases. All three victims reported the incidents to law enforcement. Mr. Vetsch also stated to me that he himself contacted FBI for assistance on these particular cases. He was told by FBI “we offered to assist BIA Criminal Investigator Jeff White but he told us he had these cases covered and we didn’t want to step on anyone’s toes.”

Within the first months of my appointment as Associate/Juvenile Judge, SLTSS was requesting hearings for the foster care cases. However, when the hearings took place, there was no representation from SLTSS for the hearings. I met with Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services Director Kevin Dauphinais about this along with other issues. Mr. Dauphinais assured me these issues would be taken care of and it wouldn’t happen again. The Court continued to have the same issues. It got to the point where I began dismissing the cases and SLTSS had to re-file all the cases. On several occasions families were coming to the Court stating SLTSS removed their children from their homes and they wanted to know when the hearings were taking place so they could attend and work to get their children back. The Court had no documentation on the children being removed from the home. In some cases, the children were out of the home for a year without any documentation.
The Court attempted to contact SLTSS about these cases without success. In other cases, the Court became aware of physical, sexual and emotional abused children through I.H.S. clinic, I.H.S. Mental Health and the Suicide Prevention Coalition along with Victim Assistance where 960s were filed on these cases and no response from SLTSS as far as investigation process. If the proper investigations took place, the Court should have been involved in the process by completing background checks on the children and/or guardians. The same names continuously came up throughout time either through I.H.S. clinic, I.H.S. Mental Health or the Suicide Prevention Coalition. This indicated to me that the 960s filed were not being investigated. During my two year appointment as Associate/Juvenile Judge, SLTSS had went through ten workers who were either terminated or resigned. When a new worker was hired at SLTSS, he/she would come to the Court and request direction on what their duties were because the director did not properly train these individuals on how to do their job.

Before I began my appointment, there was an agreement made between the Court and SLTSS. In order to receive the state 4E funding for foster care, the state required specific wording in court orders. The Court paid for an employee of SLTSS to get the training for the wording in the court orders and SLTSS would complete their own orders. After I began at the Court, I noticed several delays in the orders being completed by SLTSS. Even on crucial cases, the Court would not receive the order for signature until approximately a month after a hearing. There were also many cases that didn’t have court orders completed despite requests from the Court. In 2011/2012, when audits were taking place by BIA and the state on SLTSS, it is suspected some of the SLTSS orders were fraudulent; SLTSS taking a signature page from an order that I signed and manipulating it into another order to get in compliance.

I discussed these issues with the prior tribal council and the present Chairman along with the present social worker at SLTSS. I’ve been told that I have to stop living in the past. What about the children who have reached out for help from their situations? What about the 960s that were thrown away? How does the tribe intend to deal with this? How many more children have to die before we are willing to start dealing with what happened in the past? Our tribe continues to say that our children are sacred. So why are we willing to throw away their hurt and pain?
June 25, 2014

Chairman McDonald:

It was quite interesting to listen to your testimony and response to questions yesterday. I was reminded of the famous quote from the late Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who frequently said, “Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not his own facts.”

There were three points where your opinions expressed as facts are so egregious that I must respond specifically to each of them.

First, you claimed that, during our meeting here in Denver in early April of this year, you had offered me a job at Spirit Lake. This subject never came up during my conversation with you. If it did, I would be prohibited under federal conflict of interest requirements from accepting such a post-federal employment position.

You are Chair of the Spirit Lake Council because the prior Chair was removed due to the community’s perception he was totally ineffective in dealing with the child protection issues at Spirit Lake. When we met you had been Chair for 7 months and as far as my sources and I were concerned we saw no discernible improvement in the safety of the Spirit Lake children who I had been complaining about, at that time, for 22 months. My sources have been complaining about the treatment of Spirit Lake children for several years before I arrived on the scene.

I learned just last week that, by your silence, you are apparently endorsing a tribal judge’s refusal to extradite a Level 3 Sex Offender, who has already served a lengthy sentence for his vicious rape of a teen girl, to Ramsey County to stand trial on four felony indictments for child sexual abuse. You failure after seven months in office, to protect the children who had been moved into the full-time, unsupervised care and custody of addicts, abusers and rapists where they are available to be raped daily, I believe, is unconscionable and, if the subject of employment had been raised, would have elicited an extremely loud negative
response from me, a response that would have been heard not only by you but also by anyone within 30 feet of our conversation. Under no circumstances would I allow my character and integrity to be used as a cover for your failures to effectively address the abuse and rape of Spirit Lake children. Did you think that somehow you could shield yourself from public scrutiny by hiding behind my well-known reputation for integrity and honesty built over more than 45 years of professional experience, much of it spent rooting out abusive situations such as you seem to wish to protect? Your continuing refusal to speak publicly against your tribal judge’s refusal to extradite this violent rapist moves you, I believe, into the ranks of the criminally corrupt.

I have spoken to a good friend, a long-time tribal council-member from another state in this region, who knows you and who was horrified at your willingness to shield this rapist from trial in Ramsey County and who also said he would try to speak with you about the foolhardiness of your position.

Second, you claimed that during our meeting you had asked me why I had not filed any 960s with the appropriate tribal offices and claimed I had no answer. I told you that I had been receiving widespread complaints from Indian Health Service employees, former Tribal Social Services staff, former Tribal court staff, all stating that when they filed 960s they were ignored and thrown away, that no action was taken on them no matter how serious the problem complained of was. I went on to tell you that under these circumstances I believed it was unlikely that anything different would happen to any 960 that I filed. You have to admit that if I had not filed 13 Mandated Reports, but instead only filed 960s, yesterday’s hearing probably would not have happened.

Third, you claimed that during our meeting you asked me why I had not responded to your letter to me and claimed that I had no explanation. During our meeting I explained to you that when I received and saw your letter in my Denver office, Ms. Mcmullen had already pre-empted my response with a response of her own. Somehow, your letter to me took several days longer to arrive in Denver than it took to get to her in Washington, DC. The US Postal Service is full of surprises but I believe you followed the practice of your predecessor who when he sent a letter addressed to both the Acting Assistant Secretary, based in Washington, DC, and to me, he held mine for several days so that, his complaints about my efforts to address the child abuse, rape and torture of kids at Spirit Lake, at least for a few days would go unchallenged by me since I knew nothing about his complaints. I told you I believed you were doing the same thing and that I found that offensive. You had no response to my reconstruction of what you had done. I also told you that since Ms. Mcmullen had responded to your letter to me so promptly,
effectively removing me from any substantive involvement with issues at Spirit Lake, no response from me was appropriate.

I trust that in the future you will exercise more care in your future statements about me so that you differentiate more precisely between what is fact and what is only your opinion.

Thomas F. Sullivan
Regional Administrator, ACF, Denver
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Gives no mailing or phone contact info. Gives nothing on Bio except by written request. This guy is strange.

Here’s an ethics problem he’s tangled up in, the investigation of which somehow got dropped.


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NOTE: I have left off the name of Congressman Kevin Cramer, ND because he is the only one driving this investigative committee to do the right thing. I already know he's giving it all he's got.