

Friends of Twin Lakes, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, is offering a series of five seminars on Native Nations in 2016, to be held in the Twin Lakes school house on the second Saturday of each month (June - October). The seminars are free and will be conducted by Judy Leaming (Catawba/Cherokee), an attorney and educator who has worked with Indian Tribes for thirty years. If you're curious about Native Nations and would like to hear some of their stories, here's an extraordinary opportunity. There are 566 federally recognized tribes, each with a unique and compelling history.

Here's a summary of each session:

- Saturday, June 11 (9 to 10 am): An introduction to Native Nations in North America just before and at the time of first European contact. A tale of three sovereigns: Native Nations, the federal government and individual states.
- Saturday, July 9 (9-10 am): How European and American policies impacted Indian Country, from first contact to contemporary times.
- Saturday, August 13 (9-10 am): Contemporary issues in Indian Country, from resource development to adoptions and gaming.
- Saturday, September 10 (9-10): U.S. assimilation strategies as tools for "civilizing" Native people (reservations, boarding schools, allotted lands, termination).
- Saturday, October 8 (9-10 am): How Indian Country disputes are resolved: justice systems, peacemaking, alternative vs. traditional dispute resolution. Which court has the power to decide?

For more information, you can go to the Friends of Twin Lakes website (www.friendsoftwinlakes.com) or contact Judy Leaming (719-486-0330).