

TITLE:

Robert Brevelle appointed to the Tribal Council of the Adai Caddo Indian Nation

RELEASE:

The Adai Caddo Indian Nation of Louisiana ("Adai") has recently appointed Robert Brevelle to its tribal council and to serve as its registered agent. Robert grew up in Marksville. His father Herman Brevelle is a Marksville native and active member of the local VFW and American Legion.

The Adai are a state-recognized Native American tribe located in Robeline, Natchitoches Parish. The Adai operate a community center and museum on its 80-acre reservation. Each October, the Adai hold a powwow attracting over 4,000 visitors, traditional dancers, and vendors from over 15 states. The annual powwow is the largest event in Robeline.

"It is an honor to join the tribal council of the Adai Caddo Indian Nation," said Robert. "Our people have lived in Northwest Louisiana since time immemorial. We are the first people's of this land, and we worked closely with the French, Spanish, and the Americans to establish the State of Louisiana. We have a rich history and a beautiful culture that has lasted the test of time. We hope to share it with the world for generations to come."

Robert is a Creole of French, Asian, Acadian, and Native American descent. He is a lineal descendant of Anne des Cadeaux (Native American slave) and Jean Baptiste Brevelle, one of the first French soldiers of Fort St. Jean Baptiste des Natchitoches (the oldest settlement in Louisiana). The Brevelle family is listed in the state's First Families Registry. Isle Brevelle is the family's historic 18th century Spanish land grant and plantation, and is known as the birthplace of Creole culture. Today, it is home to the Cane River Creole National Historical Park.

Robert's step-grandfather is Horace Pierite of the Tunica-Bilioxi Nation. Horace was one of the original four signers of the Tunica's articles of incorporation and served as their Vice Chairman and Tribal Councilman. Horace's father served as the Tunica's Chief. Robert follows in their footsteps as an advocate for Native American rights and as a community leader.

Descended from a long line of farmers, his grandfather and father were the last family to farm the Tunica reservation. Their home and fields are now the current location of the powwow ceremonial center in Marksville. Today, Robert's cousins have farms in Brouillette and across Avoyelles Parish. Robert operates timber plantations in Sabine and Vernon Parish.

"I grew up in Leesville and Marksville. I had what some would say is a very traditional Louisiana childhood. My weekends and vacations consisted of hunting and fishing from Toledo Bend to Spring Bayou to Grand Isle. My hobbies and the places we went followed the seasons as did

what we ate. People from out of state always laugh when I tell them my favorite fish is gar, favorite soup is turtle, favorite snack is fried boudin balls, and just about every dish is better with rice and gravy."

Robert is also the Chairman of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, which was founded in 1953 to collect, preserve and publish genealogical and historical materials for the State of Louisiana and its people. The Society works closely with genealogy and ancestry libraries, historical societies, state agencies, research facilities and universities. Over 100 libraries subscribe to the Society's journal. The Society is headquartered in Baton Rouge and sponsors a spring and fall seminar each year at the Louisiana State Archives building. As a publisher, the Society has released historical books such as *Louisiana Soldiers in the War of 1812*.

"I always felt at home in Avoyelles Parish. It seemed no matter where I went or who I ran into, there was always a cousin to be found. It brings a smile to my face when I walk through the Paragon Resort and see old photos of my aunts and uncles on the wall. And of course, I love the Cochon de Lait Festival in Mansura. Our family attends the festival every year."