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INDIAN VOICES

OUR 35TH YEAR

MULTI-CULTURAL NEWS GLOBAL NETWORK

SEPTEMBER 2021

Indigenous World Awakens the Great Law of Peace

by Rose Davis

Several centuries ago, a new kind of law was born in the Northeast of North America, or Turtle Island. The great Law of Peace-Kayanerenkowa — is a message of peace, power, and righteousness.

Native American influence on the origins of our government and constitution is a hidden and forbidden truth that has been held captive in the narrative of our history. History books would have you believe that the foundation of our country was a manifestation of the genius of the Founding Fathers who miraculously conjured up our nation's foundation out of thin air, or were influenced by European governments even though there was no democracy anywhere in Europe at that time.

When the Founding Fathers looked for examples of effective government and human liberty upon which to model a Constitution to unite the thirteen



Historically, what made the Iroquois Confederacy special was their amazingly detailed, well-defined constitution. Recorded by a pictographic system in the form of wampum belts, the Great League's laws held on for centuries, maintaining perfect balance between five powerful, warlike nations

colonies, they found it in the government of the Iroquois Nation. In the 18th

Century, the Iroquois League was the oldest, most highly evolved participatory democracy on Earth.

The U.S. Constitution is modeled in both

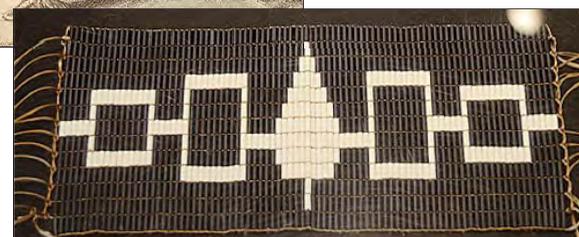
intelligence of the Native American tribe.

This is absolute and unequivocal.

In 1987, the United States Senate acknowledged that the Great Law of Peace of the Iroquois Nations served as a model for the Constitution of the United States. (U.S. S. Con. Res. 76, 2 Dec. 1987).

Because the U.S. Constitution was a model for the charter of the United Nations, the Iroquois Great Law of Peace is also a basis of international law.

The Iroquois Confederacy gave rise to the first federal constitution on the American continent. That constitution, the Great Law of Peace (the Great Law), provided for federalism, separation of powers, equitable distribution of wealth. Accountability of elected officials, freedom of assembly, speech and religion, and a system of natural rights that influenced thinkers like Benjamin



principal and form on the Great Law of Peace developed from the indigenous

SEE **Great Law of Peace**, page 2

“Ha’kamwe” Hualapai - Lithium Protest

by Clarence Gonzales

“The Hualapai Ancestors and their Land called “Haks’gaela”, where the Hualapais believe that “Water Is Sacred”. Without water, mankind nor Animals, could not live. We need water to grow crops. Our bodies need water to survive. Anything, living or mobile needs water. Our, lands go through droughts as is”.

Hualapai tribal community, wikiup community and adjoining communities and reservations are all welcome, to participate in the “Ha’kamwe”, a Protest walk that starts in Peach Springs, Az to Wikiup, Az (The Ranch). Come walk with us to build our voice against Lithium mining and Drilling. The lithium extraction process uses a lot of water—approximately 500,000 gallons

WATER IS SACRED
NO DRILLING NO LITHIUM MINING
**HELP PROTECT
HA'KAMWE'**
& THE COMMUNITY OF WIKIEUP



JOIN THE PROTEST WALK
Peach Springs to Wikiup
September 25-28
Meet 5:00 AM at Route 66 Park
Or find the group on the road

per metric ton of lithium. To extract lithium, miners drill a hole in salt flats and pump salty, mineral-rich brine to the surface (Institute of energy research).

“This can endanger the communities where the lithium is being mined because it can cause droughts or famine if operations are not kept in check”. (Greenmatters.com).

Let's all join together as one community. To build a voice to stop this project from moving forward.

Participating tribes-Yavapai, Apache, Mojave, and several bands of the Kumeyaay, Cocopah, Quechan, Luiseño, and

Bobby Wallace with other activists groups Led by the Peach Springs Hualapai Tribe.

Please, join us on September 25 -28 2021. Meet in Peach Springs, Az @ Route 66 park

Time- 5am or meet up with us on the Road.

Lead Pollution

NEW YORK, NY – Today, community groups from across the country represented by Earthjustice, together with the county of Santa Clara in California, filed a petition calling on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take the necessary steps to regulate lead pollution from aircraft, the largest source of lead emissions in the country. The petition comes as 39 organizations and individuals signed a letter calling on EPA to look into the issue.

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Unwavering

by Kenneth G. White Jr.

Often times Indigenous people are challenged and confronted by the so-called “dominant” society to rethink and relinquish their beliefs, values, and way of life. Why? Because our sacred Indigenous beliefs, values and way of life are not seen as equal or worthy by others. We are judged through an ignorant or bigoted lens.

As a unique beautiful one-of-a-kind Indigenous person, during these trying times, and as an everyday way of life, be true in your steadfast belief in yourself, your people, and Creator. Stand strong and never give up. Be unwavering.

It all starts with you. What do you believe in? What do you value? What is your way of life? Early in life one searches for these answers, often times based on good and bad societal influences. Take a moment to reflect on your substantive being as an Indigenous person. You have been given these God given gifts which are your power and substance –

1. Creator – “The greatest gift you can give yourself is a personal relationship with God.” “Pray, believe in your prayers, God hears you.” “Take care of the holy medicine and it will take care of you.” My Dad’s teachings. No other words necessary.

2. America is God given Indian Land (always has been, always will be). Because it is Indian land, Mother Earth will protect you and our dear Native people. Creator knows the history and truth of the genocide of Indigenous people. He will not forsake us, for he is our foundation and inspiration to succeed in life physically, mentally, and spiritually. Given that this is our land (always has been, always will be), Tribes must view themselves as sovereign Indian Nations when building services and systems to help the people and dealing with federal, state, and local governments.

3. You are made up of four holistic ways of life – Your four clans (Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa); the four directions; the four seasons; the four blessings (Mother Earth, Father Sun; the animal world and the plant world); and other God given gifts.

4. As an Indigenous person, Creator gifted you with the values of love, hope,

charity, and faith. Hold these values dear to your heart and never give them up to society’s pressure, because they embody the essence and foundation of, we as indigenous people.

There are many more God given gifts you have in addition to these four identified. Being exposed to these God given gifts I have come to the following unwavering truths in my life -

I unwaveringly believe in God. I value prayer, my identity, and my family as a Navajo person. My way of life is based on the teachings of my Mom and Dad, Navajo culture, and the great Native American Church and holy medicine. It took me years to fully realize these beautiful beliefs, values, and way of life. These truths are now my life.

I unwaveringly believe in our Indigenous people as a shining light, the answer for a sick world, a prayerful foundation and core, for all society to get it right. Indigenous people have thousands of years of life experience and a special and unique Native way of life relationship with Creator. In reality, we don’t need the “dominant” society’s judgement of whether our way of life is equal. We humbly know through Creator what we have, and cherish it within ourselves, and do not need to justify our God given way of life. Rather than justify, we must celebrate our way of life.

I unwaveringly believe in Mother Nature as a living spirit that knows me, supports, and sustains me every day of my life. Just to wake up is a blessing. Just to get my eagle feather go outside in the fresh morning air, stand on Mother Earth, greet Father Sun, and say a heartfelt prayer to our Creator is a blessing. Just to feel the connection with these deities gives me hope and healing as an Indigenous person.

I unwaveringly believe that a special one-on-one relationship with Creator is the foundation of my heart, mind, and soul. I am his child, he is my Heavenly Father, and that is the way it will always be forevermore.

I unwaveringly believe our Indigenous Native children will save the world. They are smart and intelligent. They are educated. They are strong. They are trying to make a life for themselves and their families in a good way. They are unwavering in their responsibility and recognition that they must carry on our

SEE **Unwavering**, page 6

Great Law of Peace

Continued from page 1

Franklin, Rousseau, and Engles. The most remarkable feature of the Great Law was its recognition of the status and suffrage accorded to women by the Iroquois Confederacy. The Great Law’s clauses recognize the power and influence of woman in the Iroquois culture.

For decades, the Iroquois had urged the English colonists to unite together as one independent and free people.

George Washington, Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson met frequently with the Iroquois and made themselves very familiar with the Great Law of Peace.

Washington expressed “great excitement” over the two houses and Grand Counsel.

Several delegates from the Iroquois Confederacy attended the Continental Congress in 1776 as it wrote the Declaration of Independence and drafted the Constitution of the United States, modeling it on the Iroquois Constitution.

Three weeks later, the Declaration of Independence was signed, and the United States of America was born.

Regrettably the parts of the Great Law of Peace that our founding fathers didn’t incorporate were these:

The Seventh Generation principle: The Constitution of the Iroquois Confederacy states that chiefs consider the impact of their decisions on seven generations into the future.

The role of women: Clan mothers choose candidates [who are male] as sachems [political leaders]. The women maintain ownership of land and homes, and exercise veto power over any council action that may result in war. The women can also impeach and expel any leader who conducts himself improperly or loses the confidence of the electorate; then the women choose a new leader.

One can only imagine how different our world would be today if our government had included these principles from the start.

As our society collectively evolves from the reptilian brain to a higher consciousness it is time to polish the lens of history to teach the truth of the origin of our incredible country, so that we can get on with this great American experiment, while embracing our brothers and sisters, being comfortable with the concept that Ancestors lives and therefore all lives matter.

At the table of the human family we can return to civility and manners, liberated with full knowledge of how we got to where we are now and with the confidence to navigate to the next evolutionary stage of humanity with minimum social collateral damage and tear gas.

We are blessed and fortunate to be in the orbit of the Great Kumeyaay Nation to pursue this journey.



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Attention Tar Heels

The Great state of North Carolina joins the battle to save our Democracy. In memory of the Wilmington Massacre all North Carolinians and friends throughout the country interested in fighting for our Democracy are invited to come together to build a community of citizens dedicated to making sure that the Great American Experiment continues.

Please stay tuned as we develop.

(Nov. 10, 1898: Wilmington Massacre On Nov. 10, 1898, white supremacists murdered African Americans in Wilmington, North Carolina and deposed the elected Reconstruction era government in a coup d’etat.)

Secretary Haaland Creates New Missing & Murdered Unit to Pursue Justice for Missing or Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives

New unit will coordinate interagency collaboration and strengthen existing law enforcement resources

WASHINGTON – Today Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced the formation of a new Missing & Murdered Unit (MMU) within the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services (BIA-OJS) to provide leadership and direction for cross-departmental and interagency work involving missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives. The MMU will help put the full weight of the federal government into investigating these cases and marshal law enforcement resources across federal agencies and throughout Indian country.

“Violence against Indigenous peoples is a crisis that has been underfunded for decades. Far too often, murders and

missing persons cases in Indian country go unsolved and unaddressed, leaving families and communities devastated,” said Interior Secretary Deb Haaland. “The new MMU unit will provide the resources and leadership to prioritize these cases and coordinate resources to hold people accountable, keep our communities safe, and provide closure for families.”

Approximately 1,500 American Indian and Alaska Native missing persons have been entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) throughout the U.S., and approximately 2,700 cases of murder and nonnegligent homicide offenses have been reported to the Federal Government’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

A task force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives — Operation Lady Justice (OLJ) — was formed in 2019 to pursue these

unresolved cases. Today’s announcement builds on that work by designating new leadership and support positions, including a Unit Chief responsible for stakeholder collaboration, continued policy development, and overall performance of the unit. The Department is also designating new positions with existing federal funding to support the investigative needs of the MMU, including the collection and analysis of performance data and coordination of services with the families of victims.

Investigations remain unsolved often due to a lack of investigative resources available to identify new information from witness testimony, re-examine new or retained material evidence, and review fresh activities of suspects. The MMU, in addition to reviewing unsolved cases, will immediately begin working with Tribal, BIA and FBI Investigators on active

Missing and Murdered investigations.

The MMU will also enable the Department to expand its collaborative efforts with other agencies, such as working to enhance the DOJ’s National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), and developing strategic partnerships with additional stakeholders such as the FBI’s Behavioral Analysis Units (BAU’s), the FBI Forensic Laboratory, the US Marshals Missing Child Unit (MCU) and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

“Whether it’s a missing family member or a homicide investigation, these efforts will be all hands-on deck,” Secretary Haaland continued. “We are fully committed to assisting Tribal communities with these investigations, and the MMU will leverage every resource available to be a force-multiplier in preventing these cases from becoming cold case investigations.”

“Family of Indians / What is Life?”

by Clarence Gonzales

Life, can be so many things. Many beautiful things and many not so perfect, good or rewarding. A great mind, can be a sharp tool or it can be a nightmare. Depending on what you put in and use as knowledge.

Self, is a temporary place for the spirit. A home or temple, to carry creators gift to man kind. A light of life, sunshine and a battery that can never die as the physical self gets donated back to the land.

“As it is known we were created from dust. Being that, life can be lived so many ways”.

In present day, 2020---- life felt the covid pandemic. Having the people investing in toilet paper and running crazy for food and other supplies. In the world news, our world suffers from many natural disasters. Biblically, it was written in text to inform the world of many things to come.

As it was shown in movies and other form of Media that our world would suffer. Wasn’t it not shown, like (I am

legend)? Didn’t sin city (Las Vegas) look like a ghost town. A vision that was shown in a vision with so much writing on the wall. Death has a way of presenting it self In plain spiritual site.

As the people, danced the ghost dance long ago in red lake(Valley Vista, AZ). They were murdered by calvary. What was the meaning of that? Was it because, of power or control? Is it a defense and scared tactic to take a life because of traditional practices and mourning? To bring the spirit down? These are questions I ask myself. Haven’t we not suffered enough as man kind. In that same pandemic there wasn’t a racial choice of who would be taken. More of a question of who was picked to leave the physical world.

On a hike one day, I ran into a friend of mine in spirit, not knowing her situation at the time. I knew things weren’t right. She asked me to bring her a coke next time I went up the mountain. I have yet to deliver that coke. I have yet to thank her for the guidance and protection that night as I slept on the mountain. Not, knowing

that I would see her physical self life less, not long after. My brothers and I were given an honor to send her off in a way that we use in today’s world. An understanding, that blessings and honorable moments may be an experience that can never be replaced with everyday life experiences. That’s what makes me feel proud of being an “Indian”, a “family of Indians”, in today’s world. Is a family that is always together. As, our songs in tale, the people were always together.

As, my mom talks about on their trips by wagon. Through the pines on the east side of the reservation. They stopped at many camps. She mentioned that they used to run into a gypsy family who camped by music mountain. I listen and I can picture those moments. As I think that, that time in memory would be irreplaceable. She mentioned that they would stop and pitch camp. Sometimes camp for days and meet up with other family’s. They never went hungry and always had enough food for others that stop by.

We are looking to interview other families for this column “Family of Indians”. Any publishing inquiries send an email to rezconnect20@gmail.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Indian Voices

The Montgomery-Gibbs Environmental Coalition would like to bring to your attention to better inform the public about the toxic lead air pollution that is generated by general aviation airports not only all over San Diego County, but also nationwide.

Piston-engine aircraft operating on leaded aviation gasoline are the largest remaining aggregate source of lead emissions to air in the U.S. according to the EPA. Toxic leaded aviation fuel is only used in propeller planes (general aviation planes) not jet planes.

General aviation planes in California drop nearly 50 tons of toxic lead annually resulting from the use of leaded avgas

None of the 13 San Diego City or County general aviation airports offer unleaded UL94 fuel for sale alongside toxic leaded avgas that only a minority of general aviation planes absolutely need to use for safety

Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport (MYF) in the city of San Diego alone generates more than a ton of lead

SEE Letter to the Editor, page 5



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Roe v Wade Died With Barely a Whimper. But That's Not All

by Laurence H. Tribe/Guardian UK

Financial rewards given to those shredding the US constitution? That is the reality of the Texas law on abortion or years, as the supreme court's composition kept tilting right, reproductive rights have been squarely on the chopping block. Now they are on the auction block as well.

Observers have speculated how today's new ultra-right court would commence the slicing: by chipping away slowly at Roe v Wade? Or by taking the political heat and overruling it outright? Few imagined that the court would let a statute everybody concedes is flagrantly unconstitutional under the legal regime of Roe not only go into effect without being judicially reviewed but become the centerpiece of a totally unique state scheme that puts a bounty of at least \$10,000 on the head of every woman who is or might be pregnant.

It wasn't just Roe that died at midnight on 1 September with barely a whimper, let alone a bang. It was the principle that nobody's constitutional rights should be put on sale for purchase by anyone who can find an informant or helper to turn in whoever might be trying to exercise those rights.

That, after all, is how the new Texas law works. Its perverse structure, which delegates to private individuals anywhere a power the state of Texas is forbidden to exercise itself until Roe is overruled, punishes even the slightest form of assistance to desperate pregnant women. Doctors, family members, insurance companies, even Uber drivers, are all at risk if they help a woman in need. And

the risk is magnified by the offer of a big fat financial reward for whoever successfully nabs a person guilty of facilitating an abortion once a heartbeat can be detected, typically six weeks after a woman's last period, well before most women even know they are pregnant. There is not even an exception for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest. No law remotely like this has ever been allowed to go into effect.

The prospect of hefty bounties will breed a system of profit-seeking, Soviet-style informing on friends and neighbors. These vigilantes will sue medical distributors of IUDs and morning-after pills, as well as insurance companies. These companies, in turn, will stop offering reproductive healthcare in Texas. As of a minute before midnight on 31 August, clinics in Texas were already turning patients away out of fear. Even if the law is eventually struck down, many will probably close anyway.

Worse still, if women try to escape the state to access abortion services, their families will be on the hook for offering even the smallest aid. If friends or family of a woman hoping to terminate her pregnancy drive her across state lines, or help her organize money for a plane or bus ticket, they could be liable for "aiding and abetting" a now-banned abortion, even if the procedure itself takes place outside Texas.

Adding insult to injury, if a young woman asks for money for a bus ticket, or a ride to the airport, friends and parents fearful of liability might vigorously interrogate her about her intentions. This nightmarish state of affairs burdens yet another fundamental

constitutional privilege: the right to interstate travel, recognized by the supreme court in 1999 as a core privilege of federal citizenship. Welcome to Gilead!

Many wealthy women will presumably still find ways to access care. But their poor, disproportionately minority sisters will be stuck, forced to face down the barrel of unimaginably cruel choices. Desperate women will still seek abortions but will be forced to do so on the black market and in back alleys. Fewer Samaritans will risk heavy fines or imprisonment to help them. Some will die trying.

What can be done? We can give up on this court and try pressuring Congress to pass the Women's Health Protection Act, which would enshrine a federal statutory right to provide and receive abortion care free of these sorts of state schemes. But such a bill would die at the hands of Mitch McConnell, the minority leader, in a Senate filibuster.

And what if it were somehow to pass? Odds are that a court majority, despite having held that Congress is empowered to enact a nationwide ban on certain late-term abortions because medical procedures are part of interstate commerce, would suddenly "discover" new limits on the reach of the commerce clause as a source of congressional power and strike the act down. When the court so casually lets a law that flouts its precedents take effect, all bets are off.

Or are they? Maybe even justices deeply hostile to abortion rights can be

persuaded to balk specifically at the unprecedented financial incentives this grotesque law creates to put a price on the head of every pregnant woman or girl. Shades of sex slavery and prostitution might put this privatization of law enforcement in a light even conservative jurists find unbearable. What if women chilled by this business model, or those seeking to help them to avoid unwanted motherhood, were to sue the Texas authorities who stand ready to disburse \$10,000 bounties for each forbidden abortion detected or prevented?

As Justice Sotomayor said in her dissent – there were four dissents in all – the Texas law "is a breathtaking act of defiance – of the constitution, of this court's precedents, and of the rights of women seeking abortions throughout Texas". After a puzzling silence of a day and night, "the court finally [told] the Nation that it declined to act because, in short, the State's gambit worked." Even if not a single justice in the 5-4 majority rejects the ability of a state to "evade federal judicial scrutiny by outsourcing the enforcement of unconstitutional laws to its citizenry", and even if all five of the justices in that majority stand ready to trash Roe v Wade, maybe at least one of those justices would agree that no state can hand out financial rewards to people – not only citizens in Texas but people from anywhere in the country, perhaps the world – shredding the constitution of the United States?

The Kumeyaay Villages of San Diego City

by Michael Miskwish

The Mexican-American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848. When the Americans settled into the San Diego region they encountered a balance of power very different than other parts of California. Kumeyaay in the southeast mountains continued to maintain their independence, resisting everything from Catholic priests to rancheros and the Mexican Army. Closer to the coast, many Kumeyaay men had adapted to the Mexican society and had become key parts of the labor force as vaqueros, laborers, craftsmen and sailors. Kumeyaay women worked as cooks, housekeepers and weavers. Interactions

and trade were very common between the coastal Kumeyaay and the independent interior people.

The American settler-colonial system was different than the colonial-mission system introduced by the Spanish. The legacy of the colonial-mission system still lingered on in California well after the American entry. While the colonial-mission system sought to subjugate the Indians as a lower labor class for the elite, the American settler-colonial system sought to remove or eliminate the Indian presence. To accomplish this the Americans negotiated the Treaty of Santa Ysabel with the Kumeyaay to restrict them to the eastern

SEE **Kumeyaay Villages**, page 15



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CORRECTION

An article on page 4 August issue *Indian Voices* about Covid 19 erroneously lists Julian Do of Ethnic Media Services as the author. The article which was reprinted from the *LA Times* as was forwarded to *Indian Voices* by Julina Do.

We thank Julian and Ethnic Media Services for their continued inspiration and support.

No One Knows How Many Indigenous Women Are Murdered Each Year. That Makes the Deaths Hard to Stop

by Graham Lee Brewer, NBC News

Indigenous women are demanding a reshaping of the criminal justice system in a way that values their lives.

Abigail Echo-Hawk was part of a small team of researchers at the Seattle Indian Health Board that released a landmark study in 2018 on the number of missing and murdered Indigenous women. The report not only hinted at the hidden magnitude of the problem — documenting more than 500 cases, predominantly in the Western United States, stretching back to the 1940s — it also highlighted major shortcomings in the crime data used to understand the issue.

In the absence of comprehensive government information, Echo-Hawk and her colleagues combed media reports, reached out to the families of victims across Indian Country and called community leaders and organizers to compile their study.

“We need to understand the base issue of the problem,” said Echo-Hawk, the executive vice president the Seattle Indian Health Board and a citizen of the Pawnee Nation. “Where are we? What does the data look like? What do the leaders need?”

Three years later, there is still no definitive count of missing and murdered Indigenous women in the U.S., in part because of underreporting of crimes and police reports that misclassify Native American women as white or Hispanic. Police generally do not document victims’ tribal affiliation — often, police forms lack a field for this information— which means even tribal governments don’t understand the scope of the problem among their own citizens. But based on available research, more than 4 out of 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women experience violence in their lifetime, according to a 2016 National Institute of Justice study.

Without better data, this ongoing legacy of colonial violence, in which Indigenous women and children across North America were subjugated and exploited for hundreds of years, has been effectively hidden. Native people have been made invisible in the data policymakers use to address the public’s needs and allocate the necessary funding and attention, researchers and advocates say.

Echo-Hawk is one of many Indigenous women demanding a reshaping of the criminal justice system in a way that values their lives. She and others are pushing the issue to the forefront by pressuring public officials and

policymakers to fund efforts to address the problem and by showing them, through testimonials and research, the cost of inaction.

“We refuse to let our people die in silence,” Echo-Hawk said.

In the last few years, nearly a dozen states have created task forces on the issue, and Echo-Hawk and other Indigenous researchers and advocates are pushing more states to do the same — and to fund the changes the panels recommend. In Minnesota, Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan, a Democrat who is White Earth Band of Ojibwe, has pushed for funding for justice reforms. The task force there led to the recent establishment of an office to investigate cold cases, using Covid-19 relief funding.

This month, Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson, a Democrat, announced his state would create a task force as well. The 21-member group of representatives from tribal nations, community outreach organizations and the criminal justice system will look at best practices for data collection and crime reporting. The task force has \$500,000 to spend over the next two years and hired a small staff.

“The incomplete nature of the data, if I’m putting it charitably, has been a challenge for us,” Ferguson said.

Addressing the patchwork of criminal jurisdictions in Indian Country — which requires prosecutors, and sometimes law enforcement, to determine whether tribes, the state or the federal government has authority in a case — is already difficult, he said. But it’s an even more daunting task when law enforcement doesn’t know how many cases exist.

One of Echo-Hawk’s strategies is a novel workaround: Since law enforcement generally does not collect data on tribal affiliation, this year she helped the King County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, which covers Seattle, set up a system to gather this information from victims and their family members when a case is referred for prosecution. The office also created a system to share resources and information with tribes.

Aubony Burns, a senior deputy prosecuting attorney in King County, said she and her co-workers found the Seattle Indian Health Board’s report “startling,” and after an inventory of their cases, she said they realized “we had huge holes in just the basics of our data.”

For Burns, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation who works in the office’s sexually violent predator unit, it was an urgent call to action to collect better crime data, which determines the prosecutions that get resources and attention. “If we’re not keeping it right and addressing it in the correct way, then it’s really useless, right?” she said.

The program is new, but Burns said in the coming months she expects data on tribal affiliation to illuminate the needs of the Indigenous peoples in King County.

Since the 2018 study, both the Seattle Police Department and the Washington State Patrol have put funding toward cases involving missing or murdered Indigenous people, but neither has started gathering tribally specific data. The Seattle Police Department has worked with the Seattle Indian Health Board to analyze the data collection process and hired a data adviser on this issue, said Sgt. Randall Huserik. The Washington State Patrol has hired two tribal liaisons to review data for racial misclassifications, help families report crimes and investigate older cases, said Capt. Neil Weaver.

Echo-Hawk secured a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to start the work being done in King County, which she hopes to see replicated outside of Washington. Next month she and her colleagues will share that work in a toolkit for other prosecutors interested in collecting and

analyzing tribally specific victim data.

“It is true, community-led police reform,” Echo-Hawk said. “What we’ve done in the King County prosecutor’s office can be replicated in any county in the country, large or small.”

There’s also action at the federal level. Under the direction of Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, the first Native American to hold the position, the department is building a missing and murdered unit within the Bureau of Indian Affairs to support investigations and coordinate services with the families of victims.

For Annie Forsman-Adams, a researcher on Washington’s new task force and a member of the Suquamish Tribe, a key component is buy-in from police departments to not only collect more detailed data, but also to create new ways to gather it by building trust in the communities they patrol. For many police departments, that could mean training officers on the complexities of Indigenous identity.

“At the end of the day, that’s how we’re going to collect good data,” she said.

Letter to the Editor

Continued from page 3

annually, due to the exclusive sale of leaded avgas. (Source - Airport Master Plan)

It (MYF) is #15 of the top 100 lead producing airports in the nation. (see attached) and nearly 60% of the people living in the mile radius around the airport are minorities, and nearly 30% are low income. The lead figures and census data in the spreadsheet are from the EPA’s 2017 NEI data for lead emissions at airports and EPA’s tool EJSCREEN (which uses Census Bureau data) for the demographic analysis. Please be aware that EPA lead figures differ from that of the Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport Master Plan because different computing methods were used.

Gillespie Field in El Cajon, Mc Clellan-Palomar Airport in Carlsbad, and the Ramona Airport are also listed in the top 100 lead producing airports in the U.S.

The majority of piston driven planes can use Swift Fuels unleaded UL94 aviation fuel, but a minority need to continue to use leaded fuel for safety, so the solution would be to offer both leaded and unleaded. But although the city of San Diego officials say they are working on convincing their airport tenants (FBOs) to offer unleaded, it appears nothing is moving forward. If that does not come to fruition very soon, then the City of San Diego itself needs to step up to

the plate and become its own fuel vendor to offer unleaded to significantly decrease the toxic lead air pollution that is generated by the airport.

Hopefully your readers can help by calling the San Diego Mayor’s office and demanding that unleaded fuel be offered -now! And also demand the same of the County Board of Supervisors that run county airports.

Montgomery-Gibbs Environmental Coalition is also involved in a national effort to reduce the toxic lead air pollution generated by general aviation planes. Here is a press release explaining more about that.

<https://earthjustice.org/news/press/2021/groups-ask-epa-to-regulate-lead-pollution-around-nations-airports>

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My Family Matters



To improve the quality of life of those who recognize themselves and choose to be recognized by others as "Indigenous Peoples of Color of the Americas" and in support of The American Indian Rights and Resources Organization (AIRRO).

Every Time An Elder Dies...

by Windy Goodloe, Seminole Indian Scouts Cemetery Association secretary

On August 24, something that I never imagined happened.

My beloved Aunt Sunny Girl transitioned. She was seventy-three. I understood that cancer had ravaged her body, but while she continued to breathe, no matter how labored, she was still with us, and I could pray for a miracle. But the second after she breathed her last breath and was gone, I realized that there were so many things that I'd never asked her and now would never know. I am

writing this as a tribute to my aunt and as a reminder to not make the same mistake I did by failing to honor our elders by asking questions.

In my hometown, my aunt Sunny Girl's food was legendary. Since before I was born, my aunt Sunny Girl (whose real name was Carol Ann) could be



counted on to cook enough rice and beans to feed an army. And it wasn't just plentiful, it was flavorful and made with more love than most of us could stand. And then there were her cakes. I can't even begin to tell you how many times I was stopped by someone and asked how busy my aunt was and if I knew if she could make a cake for an upcoming birthday or wedding. There was something about her food that made people seek it out. I am sure there were recipes at some point, but by the time I took notice and had a chance to hang out with her while she was "switchin' the kitchen", it was all based on memory and intuition.

At her funeral, everyone talked about how her smile was so welcoming. She was the sunshine of our little town, and with her death, everyone seemed to understand that a little bit of warmth had left our world. In the midst of our mourning, someone asked if anyone had every written down her recipes, particularly for her menudo. Upon hearing these words, my heart dropped to my feet and my eyes began to water because I had not. And I felt like I had failed my aunt and her memory.

With the death of my aunt, I realize that I cannot continue to think that there will always be time for everything. My aunt lived a full life, and I would love for her to have been able to tell the story of her full life in her own words. Her voice and laughter were so distinct, and I wish I could hear them both now.

I am saying all this to say, take the

time to sit down and record your loved ones. Ask the questions that you are curious about. Record them talking about any and everything, even the mundane can be interesting. Record those recipes, myths, legends, and folklore that are unique to your family because "every time an elder dies, a library burns."

The California News Publishers Association (CNPA)

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CNPA is a nonprofit trade association founded in 1888 that represents the daily, weekly, monthly, and campus newspapers of California. Its diverse membership consists of over 700 newspapers that elect 35 individuals to its governing board of directors. CNPA's mission statement reads:

To champion the ideals of a free press in our democratic society, and to promote the quality and economic health of California newspapers.

The association influences legislation on behalf of free speech in Sacramento,

sponsors an annual newspaper contest and convention, and offers seminars on media law, production, writing and editing, advertising, and circulation.

According to Joe Wirt, Director of Affiliate Relations the CNPA, has launched an online community, where members can contact each other directly or in specialty groups.

This sounds like an exciting concept that may offer the opportunity to co-weave innovative ideas as to how to bridge the Cultural Divide that is afflicting our media landscape and Democracy.

Indian Voices looks forward to participating.

Unwavering

Continued from page 2

Indigenous way of life.

I unwaveringly believe in you. Don't let politics, money, or addiction be your primary concern before Creator, prayers, family, and your Indigenous identity. God will hold politicians accountable. Money comes and goes. God will provide for you during your time of need. Pray, believe in your prayers, God hears you.

With these beliefs, it may seem that I am egotistically saying "Look at me." No, I am just a guy from the rez, who has been around the block and through the alley too. I made mistakes, I have trauma, I need forgiveness, I need love. But I found God.

Unwaveringly look to God. When in doubt, look to God, and ask him to help you. When you are happy, look to God, and thank him. When looking for something good, like a job or education, look to God to make your dreams and prayers come true.

Our ancestors and elders said prayers for us to Creator in their beautiful Indigenous languages, with heartfelt emotion and compassion. Their prayers went straight to Creator because they were genuinely concerned about us as Native people. Their powerful prayers remain intact, solid, and strong to this day for Native people. Ancestors and elder's heartfelt prayers never weakened in the eyes of Creator. They grew stronger over time, through the generations, and are effect, and with us Indigenous people

today. These prayers are like a shield of protection. They are for physical, mental, and spiritual wellness, health, and healing. They like a glorious declaration and war cry for celebration of our Native identity.

Our ancestors and elder's prayers are directly applicable to you and your family's wellness, health and healing today and every day. Their prayers are an unending inter-generational, universal traditional healing circle we must recognize we all have for identity, health, and healing. When facing life's challenges, acknowledge and use their timeless prayers and beautiful truths as a positive influence, healing circle, and force in your life to accomplish your dreams and aspirations.

We all need to make a personal commitment to be unwavering in our belief in our ourselves, our dear Indian people, and our Creator.

Center yourself. Define yourself. Empower yourself. Love yourself. Don't let society cast doubt on who you are. You are Indigenous. You are strong. You are beautiful. You are not alone because you are forever connected to thousands of years of God given gifts and prayers for you and your family's well-being, and your success in life. My dear Brothers and Sisters, never forget your God given gifts, prayers, and these beautiful Indigenous truths. Love, cherish, and embrace your Indigenous beliefs, values, and way of life forevermore. Be unwavering.

With all my love and respect.

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PERSPECTIVE from PEACHE

Photos Rochelle Porter

“JAZZ AT THE CREEK”

Real Unsung Hero Living The Life • Not Looking For The Lime Light

On September 4th, during the first day of “Jazz at the Creek” San Diego located behind Jacobs Center, several people received the Unsung Hero Award from Leonard J. Thompson President & CEO of M.A.N.D.A.T.E. Records Inc. and producer of Jazz at the Creek. The awards were desk clock that for me it said “in the hardest of times they are the heroes that stepped up ready to fight all battles both good and bad for us all. Sometimes it’s for our health and others for keeping our minds believing in tomorrow’s. Jazz at the Creek is a yearly event production of Great entertainers, Sponsors, food, and great vendors that gather to make is a great and successful event. Headliners were Patrice Rushen on Saturday September 4th and Ronnie Laws September 5th.



The Demise of Kevin McCarthy and the Crumbling Reptilian Republican Party that He Seeks to Lead

We would have understood that within democracy lie dangers. We would have understood that voting is a complex act, and the motives behind choosing are not simple and can be manipulated... We have learned to be vigilant. We can never be vigilant enough. Democracy's very openness brings with it many possibilities, some of them are easy to understand and manage, others are not so easy to control. Irish novelist Colm Toibin

Who Most Resembles the Orangeman?

Kevin McCarthy tries bullying and lying his way to a leading role as the Crown Prince of the Republican Party. He's just threatened to “get even” with any company who lawfully answers subpoenas for their phone records. This is not the first time that House Minority Leader has behaved as if he is above the law. An October 14, 2018 Los Angeles Times article documents how McCarthy's family has milked the system for at least 7.6 million dollars. Kevin's brother-in-law William Wages swore in an affidavit that he was of Native American heritage. This dubious claim enabled his company Vortex Construction to get thousands upon thousands of dollars in no-bid contracts. Kevin's father-in-law, mother-in-law and sister-in-law have all worked for Vortex. His wife Judy was a 49% owner but it seems she withdrew

due to a potential appearance of a conflict of interest. She landed a plumb job with the Republican Party with a salary of \$160,000.00 per year.

Politics As Usual

The Republican Party is a monolithic top down corporate structure in need of a Big Daddy infallible figurehead. The Party, using media savvy consultants, has developed an incredibly effective means of spreading the Party line. Within hours of any controversy the puppet masters behind the scenes exchange emails and phone calls and frame a response no matter how irrational that response might be. Remember Trump's White House attorney Kelly Ann Conway's infamous “alternative facts” statement. In lock-step, word gets out by way of right-wing talk radio followed by Breitbart, Fox News, NewsMax, OAN and finally recapped by the China-hating Epoch Times newspaper.

Self-Appointed Town Crier

Steve Bannon relishes his role as Party propagandist. Alison Klayman's incredibly revealing 2019 documentary film captures him toadying up to white supremacist and neo-fascist European parties in Belgium,

SEE Demise, page 15

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How to Save Your Energy

by Najah Abdus-Salaam



We are living in a very unique time. Where COVID has touched every one of our BIPOC's lives. We all know of a few people that have passed away from complications from COVID, and at the same time, a lot of us are scared to get the vaccine. As a Licensed Acupuncturist and healer, I see things in terms of energy. I try as much as I can to go about my day trying to conserve my energy so that when I really need to use it, it's there. This is a very important point, that most of us are not familiar with. Conserving our energy. By finding ways to conserve our body's precious energy, we are able to use that energy to boost our immunity and keep your body and mind healthy and sharp. This is a point I will talk about more in a little, but here's an example of how we misuse our precious life-force energy. Take COVID for example. There are many people that are seriously pro-vaccine. To the point where they are fighting with others - losing friendships, relationships are breaking up, and siblings straight disowning one another for their views. This energy is heavy, negative and fear based. On the other hand, there are those that are anti-vaccine. To the point where they are fighting with others - losing friendships, relationships are breaking up, and siblings straight disowning one another for their views. This energy is also heavy, negative and fear based. See the commonality between these two opposing sides??

They are the same. When you take away which side a person could possibly be on, you see that the reasons that they are on either side are based in fear. A very dense energy that is basically the reason why the world is the way that it is. It is the main driving force of the European dominating colonization which has infected the hearts and minds of our people all over the world. So if you want to do your part, and make a difference in who you are, here is a list of 10 things you can start to do today to conserve your energy, so that you have a savings bank to pull from when the time comes:

- 1) Go outside - spend a few minutes outside, without your phone, and be a witness to nature. Watch the trees sway in the wind, the birds singing their spirit song, the bees happily buzzing from flower to flower. Feel the magic of mother nature. Take your shoes off, feel the Earth beneath your feet - feel the blades of grass between your toes
- 2) Go inside - spend a few minutes each day meditating. Meditation can be as simple as closing your eyes and taking a few breaths, or you can follow a guided meditation on apps like insight timer, calm, or even on YouTube.
- 3) Become aware of your habits. What are you doing that takes away from your energy? Eating a bunch of pizza? Eating a bunch of sugar? Always a good idea at first, but then you begin to feel sluggish, and want to take a nap. Do you spend a lot of time thinking about things that have either already happened or haven't happened yet? Either way, this takes precious energy. Conserve your energy by releasing these habits, and see how much better you'll feel.
- 4) Do something just for you. It feels really good to give to others. But it doesn't feel good when you are giving

and your tank is empty. No one receives a martyr badge for giving until they can't. You always have to take care of your needs before you can help another.

- 5) Get some sun onto your skin everyday. Vitamin D is crucial for your immunity, and our bodies make it with the help of the Sun. So soak up some rays - but don't forget about the sunscreen.
- 6) Don't hold onto resentments. If something happens that bothers you, feel those emotions in the moment, and then let it go. Resentments carry a lot of heavy energy that can pile up quickly.
- 7) Spend good quality time with your friends and family. Hug, share, laugh, and know that every time you do, you are boosting up the good hormones (serotonin, oxytocin and other endorphins) that naturally boost your immunity.
- 8) Watch the amount of animal products that you consume. They are not the most healthy source of energy for our bodies. They are hard to digest, and hang around in our gut a lot longer than plants. The largest animals on the planet are herbivores.
- 9) Sleep - I know it's tempting to stay up late, but it is very important to get in the bed before 11:00pm. That is because at 11, the majority of the body's blood returns to the liver to be cleansed - removing toxins and giving your body the best start for the next day.
- 10) Speak your truth. This is one thing that takes so much of our energy when we don't. We obsess over why I didn't speak the truth about something which leads to shame. Which then leads to validating that shame in some hurtful way. Speaking the truth eliminates this cycle from ever happening in the first place.

Twintistic Treats - "Afro Puffs (Spicy Black-Eyed Pea Fritters)"

by Twin Kolita

Ingredients
 2 cups Black Eyed Peas (uncooked)
 1 cup carrots (grated)
 1/2 cup onions (finely chopped)
 1/2 cup bell peppers (finely chopped)
 2 tablespoons granulated onions
 2 tablespoons granulated garlic
 3 tablespoons curry powder
 2 tablespoons paprika
 2 tablespoons liquid smoke
 1 tablespoon cayenne pepper
 Oil for deep frying

Instructions
 1. Soak the black eyed peas overnight (at least 5 hours)
 2. Rinse the peas
 3. Put half of everything except the vegetables in a blender or food processor and blend until smooth.
 4. Scrape into a bowl
 5. Repeat with the remaining half
 6. Stir it together and add the vegetables
 7. Heat oil in a skillet or deep fryer
 8. Carefully add small spoonfuls of the Afro Puff mixture into the hot oil
 9. Fry until golden brown on one side (about 4 minutes)
 10. Turn and brown on the other side
 11. Remove from oil and drain on paper towels
 12. Repeat with remaining mixture

*Tip: Do not crowd the pan with too many Afro Puffs because they will not cook evenly.

Serve with your favorite dipping sauce! Enjoy!



WORLD BEAT CENTER

"It's Time For A Reset"

by Makeda Cheatom

Greetings and Blessed Love in these challenging times. It's very important that you take care of your body temple. We are getting ready for a change of season so it's a great time for a reset.

You can feel the 'dawning of a new age'. The Earth is going through its reset phase and our minds and body's need to stay strong. It's like reading some of the sci-fi books I read years ago that predicted this time of confusion and chaos. One of my favorites was "1984" and Octavia Butler's, "Parables of the Sower". Most indigenous people from the Hopis in the Americas to the Dogon in Africa to Aborigines in Australia have warned us of getting to a time of life out of balance.

Take this time to stop and look within to find your new direction. Make sure you take time to meditate, pray, and change your diet to mostly plant-based whole foods. Learn and re-learn about traditional herbs and let them be your medicine. Start growing your own food, even if it's in a bucket on your balcony. Don't bury the dead in your stomach. If you cut a potato in half and bury it you will get another potato but if you cut a goat in half and bury it, you won't get another

goat. If you continue to eat meat make sure you know where you meat is sourced and that it's concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). Make your chicken and beef is pasture-raised or better yet raise your own livestock.

Get away from the colonized diet. Many of our communities live in food deserts. This is why we have more diabetes, high blood pressure, kidney dialysis, heart diseases and other diseases which make us highly susceptible to epidemics like COVID-19.

At this point in time, we should know that death begins in the colon that's why when you got sick your grandmother would give you horrible tasting bitters like castor oil or senna leaves. They knew that bitters were medicine and a filthy colon that was backed up with toxins was the root cause of your dis-ease. Use black seed oil and black walnut tinctures to clean out the parasites. All that junk food including fast food is impacting your intestines. Yeah, in fact, it's a constipated nation. So start cleansing and fasting even if it's one day a week. You can start with smoothies, juice and tea. It just gives all your organs a rest and your jaws too from eating everything around you. Though seriously make sure you don't drink anything cold, drink warm tea and do your sweats.

Oregano oil, garlic, ginger, the sun, are all good, anything anti-viral. Chlorella and spirulina protect the cells. In fact, that's what this virus goes after, the cells. Also please get mushroom tinctures like reishi, turkey tail, and cordyceps.

They are incredible for your immune system. If you don't have money and are from San Diego, there are loquat trees all over the city and a lot of people don't eat them because they don't know what they are. Ask for some, they are full of vitamic and antioxidants. Save your seeds and plant them. The tree bears in about 2 years and you can enjoy them in the Spring. Growing up we called it 'ghetto fruit'. The leaves are medicinal too. Check me if you want some seeds.

Bless up. Stay healthy. Stay safe. And keep your prayers to the Creator. Prayer and being in nature is our secret weapon.

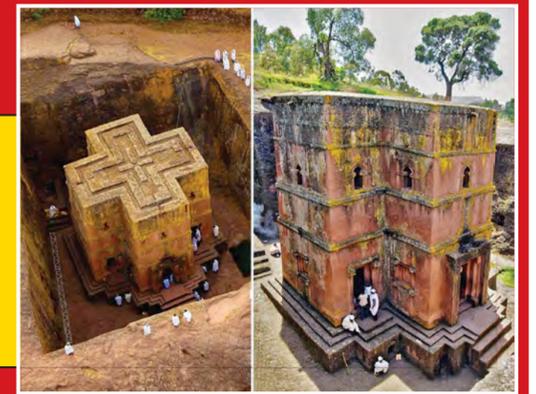
Aho! All of my relations,
 Makeda Ori Cheatom



"Wonders of Africa featuring Bete Giyorgis"

Lalibela is a town in northern Ethiopia that is famous around the world for its monolithic rock-cut churches carved from the living rock, which play an important part in the history of rock-cut architecture. The town is one of Ethiopia's holiest cities, second only to Aksum, and is a center for much of the country. The Bete Giyorgis or Church St. George is one of eleven monolithic churches in the city. Carved

from solid red volcanic rock in the 12th century, it is the best known and last built of the eleven churches in the Lalibela area, and has been referred to as "the eight wonders of the world." Lalibela, the king of Ethiopia who the city was named after, sought to recreate Jerusalem and structured the churches' landscape and religious sites to that end.



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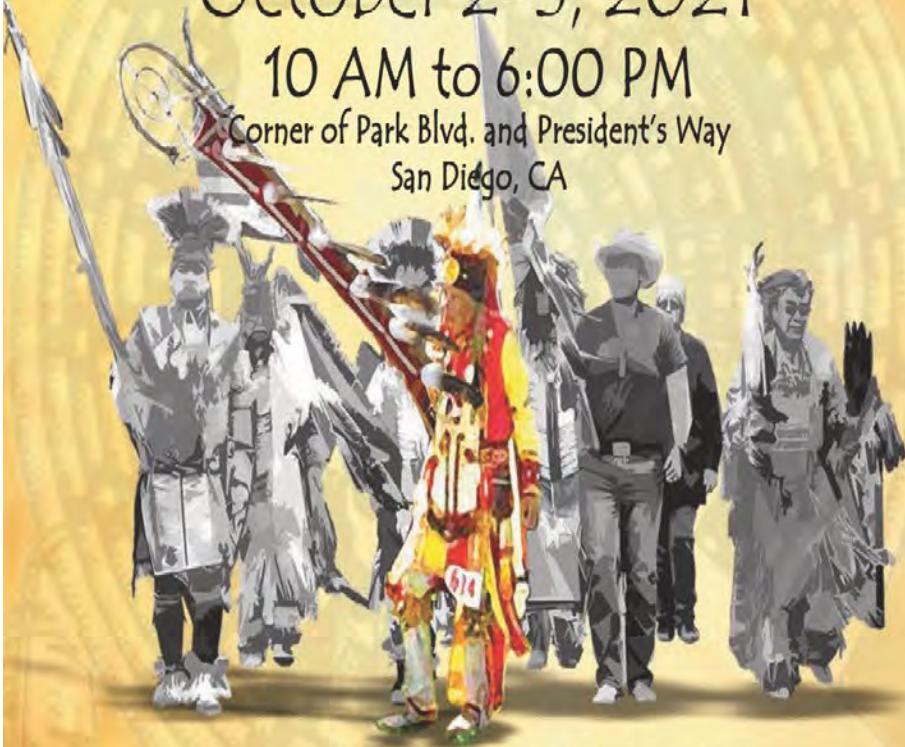
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For information visit our website at <https://sdaihc.org/powwow/>

The Balboa Park Pow Wow is a project of the San Diego American Indian Health Center
Pow Wow Committee: Randy Edmonds, Ana Jacome, Abel Jacome, Tina Morales,
Shurene Premo, Larry Edmonds, Paula Brim.

With respect to COVID-19, we will operate under federal, state, or county laws
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"Dancing for Healing, Honor our Heritage"



Black US Farmers Awaiting Billions in Promised Debt Relief

by Roxana Hegeman and Allen G. Breed

BOYDTON, VA (AP) — There was a time when Black farms prospered.

Just two generations out of slavery, by 1910 Black farmers had amassed more than 16 million acres of land and made up about 14 percent of farmers. The fruit of their labors fed much of America.

Now, they have fewer than 4.7 million acres. Black farms in the U.S. plummeted from 925,000 to fewer than 36,000, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's latest farm census. And only about one in 100 farmers is Black.

What happened?

They were able to overcome the broken promise of "40 acres and a mule" to the newly freed slaves — a military order, later rescinded. But over the last century, they faced one obstacle after another because of their race.

Farmers needed loans to expand, to buy seed, to bridge the time between harvests. But lenders — chief among them, the USDA — often refused to give them money, and often rushed to

foreclose. Suppliers and customers undercut them. Laws of inheritance led to the breakup of homesteads.

Now the government wants to make amends by providing billions of dollars in debt forgiveness for farmers of color

as part of the pandemic relief package. But a judge has put the money on hold in the face of lawsuits filed by white farmers claiming that the program is unfair — reverse discrimination.

Today's Black farmers and the descendants of Black farmers who struggled and lost their stakes argue

that they are the ones who have been the victims of injustice:

I call upon my fellow farmers, neighbors and friends to join us in facing them together.

Donate NOW to support the National Black Farmers Association. We are 501(c)3 nonprofit organization providing advocacy, outreach and direct technical assistance to Black and other minorities as well as small-scale family farmers.

For full uncut article go to www.indianvoices.net



John W. Boyd Jr., Founder Black Farmers Association

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Karina's Mexican Seafood Honored as Small Business of the Year

Sacramento, CA – This week the State Legislature celebrated California Small Business Day 2021, an annual event organized by the California Small Business Association to recognize and celebrate the vast contributions of small businesses to the state. Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego) recognized Karina's Mexican Seafood, a beloved San Diego family-owned restaurant business, as Small Business of the Year for the 40th Senate District.

"Small businesses like Karina's – grown with love and hard work over generations – are the fabric of our state's economy and part of what has catapulted California to the world's fifth largest economy," said Sen. Hueso. "The Contreras Curiel family embodies the American and California Dreams and, despite all the challenges and stresses of running a business, still finds unique ways to give back to the community that has helped them grow over the years."

Karina's Mexican Seafood began its story in 1981 when Arnulfo Contreras Sr. and his wife, María Inés Curiel, opened a small taco shop in Spring Valley that they named after the eldest of their six children. Mr. and Mrs.

Contreras Curiel immigrated from Mexico with hope, motivation, and a vision and, through their hard work, they beat the odds and achieved the American Dream.

Since that modest beginning, their six



children have worked together to grow and oversee the business, which has expanded into a thriving collection of popular San Diego dining destinations, including Karina's Ceviches & More, Karina's Cantina, Karina's Taco Stand, Saffron Thai, Taka Sushi and Savoie

Italian Eatery. With brothers David and Arnulfo Contreras Curiel at the helm, Karina's Group offers atmospheres, cuisine and hospitality that invite everyone to feel like family.

The pandemic has been extremely difficult for restaurants and Karina's is no exception. When dining rooms were ordered to be closed for the second time, they created a car dining option in addition to takeout. They called it the Karina's Car Hop at their Karina's

Mexican Seafood locations, and customers had fun with it, too.

Despite juggling these new regulations and navigating their own challenges of staying in business, Karina's made sure its community's heroes were well fed and supported. To show their appreciation to essential workers, Karina's gave out more than 2,000 free burritos to firefighters, police officers, hospital medical staff, EMTs and paramedics at several of its restaurants for a week.

While managing the day-to-day challenges of keeping afloat, the Contreras Curiel family has continued to look forward with an eye toward the long-term vision of their business. In a sign of continuing growth, Karina's just opened a new location in the Gaslamp District. The family is thrilled to be returning to downtown after closing a location on B Street in 2016.

California Small Business Day was celebrated on August 18 at a small ceremony in Sacramento, where legislators honored awardees from each of California's Senate and Assembly districts.

Institute for Local Self-Reliance Announces New Staff Union

ILSR Staff Joins National Trend of Nonprofit Organizing

Minneapolis, MN — Leadership and staff at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance announced today that they have signed an agreement recognizing the formation of a staff union. The ILSR Staff Union joined the Office and Professional Employees (OPEIU) Local 12, and today's voluntary agreement from ILSR's co-directors formally recognizes the union and opens the door to the collective-bargaining process.

"The decision to form a union was grounded in our personal values and in the mission of ILSR itself — particularly the belief that democracy can only thrive when economic and political power is widely dispersed," the staff union said. "We are grateful to ILSR leadership for their ongoing commitment to this mission and for their decision to voluntarily recognize us. We are excited to move forward and build a stronger, more sustainable organization together."

The ILSR Staff Union is currently made up of 14 ILSR staff members, who noted that their goals include promoting transparency, ensuring equity, and increasing staff well-being.

"From its founding, ILSR has believed in grassroots organizing, collective action, and fighting corporate concentration to disperse power, wealth, and decision-making more broadly and equitably — values that we share with the labor movement," said ILSR Co-Directors Stacy Mitchell and John Farrell. "Our work to build up thriving, equitable communities and fight corporate control has met with growing success because of our talented team and shared commitment to ILSR's mission. We look forward to working together to build an even more effective organization and further advance our mission."

About the Institute for Local Self-Reliance: The Institute for Local Self-Reliance has a vision of thriving, equitable communities. We are a national research and advocacy organization that partners with allies across the country to build an American economy driven by local priorities and accountable to people and the planet. ILSR.org

Supervisor Vargas, Library Open County's First Little Library in Chula Vista

County Supervisor Nora Vargas, Chula Vista city officials, County Library officials and others opened a new library at Lauderbach Park in Chula Vista Saturday — a "Little Library" for local families, one of 40 the County plans to help install around the county in the coming months.



Gwendolyn Parada Chairwoman

LA POSTA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS



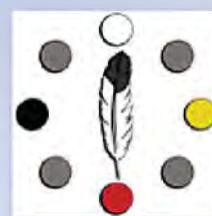
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by Norrie Robbins

Gems of San Diego

Many residents of San Diego County don't know this. Pala has a mineral deposit so famous that scientists from all over the Earth have heard of it. The main gemstone mineral is tourmaline (tour'-ma-line). It comes in so many colors – pink, blue, green, yellow, and black. The pink ones are worth the most amount of money. The black ones are the most abundant.

The chemical composition of the mineral is really amazing. They are made of sodium (like salt), magnesium (like the green in plants), aluminum (like in cans), boron (like in desert soap), and silica (like in shiny quartz lucky stones). The different colors come from the different chemicals in the tourmalines. Pink has some manganese, green has some chromium. One variety looks like watermelon when it is sliced. So it is called watermelon tourmaline because the outside is green and the inside is red.

The Pala tourmalines are found in white

veins in the gray granite-like bedrock you see all over San Diego County. The veins having minerals are called a funny geologic name – pegmatites (peg'-ma-tite). You have to dig and drill and blast a lot of pegmatite veins before you find pockets of gorgeous minerals. These gemstone minerals were formed in empty holes when the veins carried hot molten rock or cool ground water.

By the early 1900s, there were as many as 77 working mines in the hillsides around Pala. The history books do not tell what ancestors thought about the beautiful gemstones or how they used the minerals.

There are many many precious gemstones found along with the tourmaline. They have long names, long chemical compositions, but also different properties (like color and hardness), so you can begin to make an educated guess about which you have.

This new column will be devoted to hobbyist and folks interested in being connected to each other and the Earth. It is anticipated that this space will develop into a network of citizen drawn together by the sheer joy of nature. Keep your eye on the Ground.



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Citizen of the Month: Efrain Ibarra, Jr.

Efrain Ibarra, Jr. currently serves as the Assistant Director for the South County Economic Development Council (SCEDC). At SCEDC he supports and participates in organizing, planning and executing projects such as the Business Outreach program, Rapid Response Layoff Transition program, Economic Summit and the Government Officials Reception held annually. He is also the Binational Affairs Director, Co-Chairs the South, Central and East San Diego County CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies), and provides IT support.

Efrain and his coworkers at SCEDC work to encourage economic development in South San Diego, and engage with their partners in the northern portion of Baja California to nurture



binational business growth. The recovery of the border region will be key to California's economic recovery, and Efrain and his team are at the forefront of making that happen. Efrain represents SCEDC at CANACO (Tijuana's Chamber of Commerce), City of Tijuana Economic Development Council, Tijuana Economic and Industrial Development Council, Tecate Economic Development Council, Rosarito Economic Development Council, and Ensenada Economic Development Council, to promote South San Diego County and the Baja region

in the binational and international arena.

In his spare time, Efrain has volunteered at food banks throughout the pandemic to make sure his neighbors have food on the table during these uncertain times. He is a board member of KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Preparatory) Southern California, a member of the Latino American Political Association, and Founding Board Member of Baja's Uniendo Sueños non-profit organization.

From the Office of Senator Ben Hueso

Nonprofit of the Month: City Heights Community Fridge

The City Heights Community Fridge is a mutual aid collective that works to combat food insecurity in our community by providing accessible food, meals and basic need items through a local pantry and fridge. The pantry and fridge are accessible 24/7 and are supported by generous donations from community members, local businesses and nonprofit organizations. Anyone can take items, and anyone can stock it with new items.

This innovative organization is run by passionate young adults in City Heights who have worked very hard to ensure

this site complies with all local regulations and has a consistent stream of donations to keep it running year-round. Their work has been more critical now than ever, with so much food insecurity being caused by the pandemic. The City Heights Community Fridge current site is located at 3772 Wilson Ave. The team is working on



expanding throughout our community and establishing a new fridge in City Heights.

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- Native music block Saturday mornings 7:30-10
- Rez Radio Reggae nightly 7-8p
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WORLD OF CANNABIS

What do Peyote and Cannabis have in common? A take on Cannabis-Business in Indian Country from a Cannabis Business Consultant.

by Michael Lowley

A couple of things actually. First has to do with its classification by a department of the federal government. Second, related to its classification, the historical

oppressive implications it has had. This brings me to its inevitable legal proliferation in Indian Country and the need to recognize its impacts in the next decade. For those Tribes planning to engage in the ever-expanding cannabis industry and use it as an economical vehicle or a means of social equity to participate and prosper. One thing is clear, we need to be proactive and become educated in all things cannabis: science, production, employment, health benefits, the industry, federal and tribal

As part of World of Cannabis, featured in Indian Voices Publication - We have been researching the world of cannabis and its link to the culture and subcultures in its social, recreational and medicinal value. What the benefits are for medical use and the difference between sativa and indica. It is a belief that " God put this here for you and

me". It is from the earth and it is a proven fact that it has healing in it. Like any other substance it can be abused and become a problem for oneself.

Kuldeep Bhandari, a businessman, from Shimla, the capital city of Himachal Pradesh. Mr. Bhandari owns a recording label RPM Studio, Shimla. Kuldeep shares this story:

The Untold Story Malana – India’s Cannabis Country

by Clarence Gonzales

Malana, is an ancient village to the northeast of Kullu Valley. This solitary



village in the Malana Nala, a side valley of the Parvati Valley, is isolated from the rest of the world. At an altitude of 9,938 feet above sea level lies the village known as "the village of taboos".

Hashish, known as "hash", is from the dried resin tops of flowering female plants. There are many ways to separate this out from the flowers.

Malana cream, is the purest and most expensive hashish in the world.

Cultivated in the foothills of the Himalayas. In a village named Malana. Malana has been famous for hashish growth. But don't be fooled as you can not just walk up and purchase the finest in the land. They have the no more stoner visitors rule in effect. The villagers must grow on steep land away from village yet can still fall victim to machete wielding police officers as it is illegal. They believe it is the only thing that will grow there. For most they feel they would actually be able to stop growing it if the government would give them some assistance. The conditions can be harsh in this part of the world in the winter. It

comes down to grow or starve.

Don't worry, locals are always willing to find a back way to make a deal but it is forbidden. So keep that in mind.

Malana won Best Hashish in 1994 and 1996 High Times Cannabis Cup.

Drug mafias have been bringing more serious drugs into this little village as well as moving it out. The village and local police have strict laws. The remote village now is engulfed in a battle of

heroin and cocaine addiction. Much movement attention is focused on this area by the local authorities. It is highly recommended not to visit this little village with a local guide.

The history of this place is pretty interesting. It is said by the people living in Malana are inheritances of Alexander the Great. Alexander invaded Asia, then came across Malana. He moved towards the Himalayas where he was defeated by the cold weather of the Himalayas.

Many members of his army were killed due to heavy snowfall at the palace named "Mari", located near Rohtang pass. The families residing in Malana came back from Mari at that time.

The people in Malana used to make clothes and household items from the fiber comparative to jute which were expensive too in those days. Jute is a vegetable fiber that is quite strong. It is also known for the oldest democracy in the world. It is advised not to touch walls and belongings in the village. One can get fines charged as it is taboo.

laws (tax laws) and the list goes on.

In 1970, amidst the "war on drugs", a federal law was enacted. This is where the Controlled Substances Act listed both Marijuana and Peyote as a Schedule I, which were substances that were subject to the stricter laws or controls. CSA had five schedules with 1 (I) being the most restrictive and 5 (V) being the least. Strict legal controls were placed on the manufacturing, distribution and possession of these substances enforced by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Violations of these laws were and still are subject to civil and criminal penalties. Repeat offenses carried hard penalties and mandatory minimum sentences or imprisonment.

During Nixon's presidency the "war on drugs" was nothing more than a rouse to associate marijuana usage (and for that matter, Peyote) with minorities. The CSA was a creative (and racist) way enact a law to oppress and segregate minority communities. During the Jazz era, Harry Anslinger, as head of Narcotics division, created fear and played on social anxieties among whites to discourage mixing with minorities in the New York Jazz scenes. In the 50s, mandatory minimums were established for harsher

punishment regarding marijuana. In the 70s and 80s, Nixon and Regan doubled down, made the war on drugs political, and drugs became a proxy for race.

Why is understanding the role of historical event important with regards to cannabis? We can't move forward if we don't know the past. This could quite possibly mean self-sufficiency and self-determination for many Tribes and for that we need education. Cannabis is projected to be a \$100+ billion dollar industry in the next decade. There are a steady stream of states turning favorable legislation to both medical and recreational Cannabis. With that, several Tribes have entered the cannabis realm - Shoshone in Nevada, Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, and recently

Ottawa and Chippewa Michigan to name a few. Some have been in the space for several years and some new. Experts expected new and expanding opportunities for businesses, cultivators, processors, distributors, and even employment as farmers, lab or testing technicians, compliance and security personnel and beyond.

But I am afraid we are not ready. Cannabis industry is literally ready to

SEE **World of Cannabis**, page 14

APOTHECARY...



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NEWS *from Ohio***Ohio Redistricting Commission***by Indian Voices Ohio Correspondent*

In 2015, Ohioans overwhelmingly approved an amendment to its constitution to create a Redistricting Commission to ensure that Ohio's 99 house districts and 33 senate districts reflect the results of the most recent Census. On September 1, the Commission missed its deadline to present a first round of legislative maps for public consideration. The Commission is comprised of seven members: An individual appointed by the Senate President; an individual appointed by the Speaker of the House; an individual appointed by the Senate Minority Leader; an individual appointed by the House Minority Leader; The Governor; The Auditor; The Secretary of State. Presently that means 5 of the commission's seven members are republicans.

Citing delays over the delivery of 2020 Census data, House Speaker Bob Cupp said the deadline could not have been met. Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman said the map would likely come in the before the final legal deadline of September 15.

Ohio Dems are not staying silent on the matter. House Minority Leader Emilia Sykes recently intimated that she had not been filled in on as to what the commissioners of the majority party where doing, and moreover, that the amendment requires the commission to act as a whole, and not as partisan factions.

The Ohio Citizens' Redistricting Commission, however, is keeping a close eye on the official Commissions' developments. In a recent twitter release (@Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission) the group wrote: "No matter our color, background, or zip code, most of us believe that voters pick our leaders; our leaders should pick their voters. We hope the official commission will adopt maps that reflect and respect these shared values.

Editorial take: At this point it has become abundantly clear that the GOP is no friend of democracy. If you are a citizen who is even likely to vote for a democrat, the GOP would prefer you didn't vote at all, and that if you do manage to vote, that there is a way to take any meaningful power out of your vote.

World of Cannabis*Continued from page 13*

exploded. Already the illegal market is in the billions, imagine when more states legalize. We aren't exploring education opportunities to develop a workforce to meet an increase demand for skilled professional. We will need professional to navigate taxes, setting Accounting controls, building facilities, testing products, manufacturing and growth engineers, etc. Because cannabis is still illegal at the federal level, you can be certain this is a heavily regulated industry and the education must be specialized. The average application will not only need to meet extensive clearance requirements but separate themselves as standouts in a pool of applicants.

Whether Tribes are looking to cultivate, farm, provide infrastructure, of business solutions - they will need someone who knows what they are doing. For example, Tribal CEOs will need the appropriate accounting tools, someone who can improve their cash flo, understand how to navigate 280e (tax code that does not allow cannabis company to take deductions), or someone who understand the strains, the correct lighting, ventilation systems. There are consulting organizations and companies like Seedcrest and Tribal Cannabis Consulting leading the charge as well as individuals that have the tools and expertise. The bottom line is, if we wish to participate we will need to seize the opportunities and continue to strive for social equity and ultimately education ourselves.

Dayton Chapter of NAACP Points Spotlight at New Police Chief Search*by Indian Voices Ohio Correspondent*

By mid-August it had been two weeks since former Dayton Police Chief Richard Biehl stepped down as Dayton's Chief of Police. Dayton Fraternal Order of Police union leaders stated that Interim Chief Matt Carper is their preferred candidate but have yet to endorse anyone formally. The Dayton NAACP said they want a thorough search both around the nation as well as inside the present police department. Dayton NAACP President

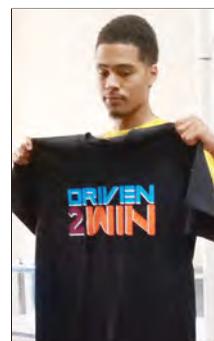
Dr. Derrick Foward said, "We're not saying there's not qualified candidates, there may be qualified candidates but don't just rubber stamp and say there's no one else around." NAACP Committee Chair Rev. David Fox said, "The new leadership has to be committed to diversity and inclusion." And, Foward said, "The next chief must have a keen understanding of various cultures." Somehow, we don't think the above sentiment is what the Dayton FOP is most interested in, like at all.

Dream Builders*by Camille Appling*

On September 2, 2021 at the Nu-Way Christian International Church located at 4166 National Ave, San Diego, Ca The Dream Builders Organization presented



Curtis McNeil, CeeCee aka Corliss Champlain, President Ramona and Roxanne McNeil



Lennar Thomas

an event "The Dream Still Lives" where the Founder and President Ramona Jones presented the Faith-Based Stakeholder

Leadership Luncheon and Press Conference. The lunch was filled with Powerful Information about Economic Empowerment and Community Development. The attendees included Pastor Jared B Moten of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church who shows strong support for the National Black Youth Economic Empowerment

Initiative presented by Jones. Jones was also accompanied Mrs. Cee Cee aka Corliss Chardlan*her Professional Assistant ,as well as The Dream Builders Success Story Lennar Thomas who is supported and educated by the Ramona Jones Dream Builder Program. Thomas hopes to utilize the skills he learned from Dream Builders to pursue an acting career and to develop his skills for life improvement and sufficiency.

President Ramona Jones goal to support "International Youth Leadership through Mentorship to establish Dreams and reach goals through the Drive to Win program." Driven to Win currently needs over 10,000 books, Corporate Sponsors, Leadership Training for the Dream Builder Leadership Course, and proudly declares "Anywhere there is youth, There is a Dream to Build!" www.dreambuilders4life.org.

CORRECTION

An article on page 11 August issue *Indian Voices* about "Lamp of Learning" erroneously misprinted the name of the organization as "Lamp of Learners" rather than "Lamp of Learning. We apologize if this has caused any confusion. Visit: Lampoflearning.org

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School Supplies

by Camille Appling

On August 29th 2021 Tau Baraka of the World Famous Imperial Barbershop located at 6443 Imperial Ave Welcomed School Age children to his Barbershop for a STEPP'N 2 SHOES Shoe Drive . The Barbershop has been a staple in the community for years and offers a variety of services including haircuts and styling at reasonable pricing. At the The Shoe Drive children were



offered their choice of Shoes, Socks, Jackets, Vests and Backpacks. The children and their parents shared donuts and orange juice while giving out school supplies and clothing. They gratefully accepted the donations and stayed awhile, listening to Music and Playing Basketball together. The Barbershop will be having another event soon titled the Eddie May Center Dinner for Mothers Raising Children on Their Own on Sunday September 12,

2021 at 6443 Imperial Ave San Diego, Ca from 3-5pm . Please email TAUBARAKA@gmail.com or call 619-577-6824 for tickets.

Kumeyaay Villages

Continued from page 4

1/5 of present-day San Diego County in return for surrendering jurisdiction over the desert and coastal lands. The Treaty was voted down in Senate committee and the Kumeyaay were never informed of this action.

It would be 23 years of dispossession, displacement and theft at the hands of American officials, homesteaders and courts before the first Reservations were created. Even with ample evidence of landless Indian populations in the San Diego region, it took another 32 years before the bulk of the expansions of the Reservation system were completed.

While a large part of the labor force for the coastal economy was based on Indian labor, the idea of creating Reservations near the coast was a non-starter for government officials. The Smiley Commission, created in 1891 to identify Indian communities for the purpose of creating Reservations, did nothing to identify potential Reservation lands in the coastal area. In fact, the Commission only looked at Indian communities further east than the existing Reservations created in 1875.

So where were these villages that supplied the labor for San Diego commerce? These are names that most San Diegans would readily recognize. These locations include Mission Valley, Lake Murray, 11th street, Florida Canyon, Los Chollas, South Bay, La Playa. Some of these were existing well into the 20th century.

Each of these villages had their own unique aspects. The Florida Canyon village, next to Switzer Creek was led for many years by Manuel Hataam, a PaiPai who migrated to San Diego from the southern edge of the Kumeyaay lands. The village was removed in 1915 at the behest of the San Diego Panama Exposition. The village at La Playa (near ballast point) was a mixture of Indians, whites and Pacific islanders who worked in the whaling trades in the second half of the 19th century.

Some villages had Kumeyaay names that survive to the present day. Las

Chollas was Matt Xtaat (Cactus Place), Rose Canyon was Wehap maw (Without Sunset), South Bay was Chewaaiip (The Talking Place). For others, the original place names have been lost to time.

Over 100 Indians provided the labor for the channelization work on the San Diego River and the construction of the ill-fated Derby Dike in the 1850s. The extension of the rail line in 1881 into San Diego was accomplished with over 50 local Indians providing labor. Indians worked alongside Native Hawaiians as crews on sailing ships. They were considered such good crewmen that Captain Clark, of the ship Ocean, replaced his entire crew with Indians in 1861 because the white sailors had excessive drunkenness and poor work habits. By the 1880s, most of the dock workers from San Diego to National City were Indians.

The Indian villages of San Diego were gradually crowded out by the swelling American population of the 20th Century. Some Kumeyaay moved to the inland Reservations where they had kinships. Others blended into the Mexican-American and Anglo populations, sometimes through marriage or adoption. Many lost their lives to Anglo violence or disease exacerbated by poor living conditions. The last Kumeyaay individual to be displaced was an elderly man living on Coronado Island. He was relocated to the Mesa Grande Reservation in the 1930s.

While the existence of distinct Kumeyaay communities had ended by the mid-20th Century, that did not stop the Kumeyaay from continuing to utilize all of their traditional territory whenever possible. Harvesting of traditional foods and medicines continued. Indians lived where they could, in the growing city, as individual families, while keeping their Kumeyaay identity. In the present-day there are 12 Reservations for the Kumeyaay (Ipaay-Tipaay) in San Diego County and 4 ejidos (Indigenous communal lands) in Mexico. This is a small portion of the Kumeyaay Nation which once extended from the Pacific to the dunes of Imperial County.

Demise

Continued from page 7

Sweden, England, France, Italy, Germany and Hungary. With an introduction to Bannon by her producer Marie Therese Guirgis, Alison is allowed to embed with Bannon for thirteen months during which time he praises dictators from around the world such as Duterte from the Phillippines and Modi from India. He gets chummy with his buddy Erik Prince, the mercenary mogul owner of Blackwater. Traveling along as Bannon's sidekick is the pudgy little gnome Sam Nunberg who claims to have turned Trump onto Twitter as if that's a badge of honor and also says he talked "the Don" into making the Wall and immigration the resounding issues they have become.

Fear As A Talking Point

Caravans, hordes of rapists, and murderers are coming to defile your entitlement to the good life. This is a simple, age-old formula that unfortunately works. This is the cause, so they claim, that makes countries, not just America, less than what they could be. If only those "illegals" could be eliminated all would be rosy in the kingdom. Never mind the war and the bombs causing the world-wide refugee crisis, or, historically, as in Central America, the usurping of the land by corporations like United Fruit. And, whistleblowers beware, do not mention the death squads sponsored by the United

States government and trained in the Georgia-based School of the Americas. That type of root-cause analysis is verboten in the corporate press.

There would be no immigration problem if their was land for natives to occupy and livable-wage jobs available. If Kevin McCarthy and his family weren't appropriating available funds earmarked for legitimate minority-owned firms maybe then he would stop railing about how he and "the American people" he claims to know so well can't stand hypocrisy.

Kevin McCarthy, we demand that in the name of true American values you show real leadership by relinquishing the hold on ego driven raw power and assist the growing masses of citizens who are forging ahead with native skill to continue the great American Experiment, fueled by Spiritual Indigenous Intelligence.

Vote, Vote, Vote

As angry as one might get as this North American nation unravels, violence is never the answer. As a rule of nature violence simply begets violence. A case in point- Nicaragua, after decades of fighting against the Somosa dynasty, the Sandinistas finally overthrew the oligarchs but, sadly, Daniel Ortega, one of the lead rebels, has become a dictator just as vicious as any other. Power corrupts. Democracy must prevail peacefully.

by Bob Levis

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