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INDIAN VOICES

OUR 39TH YEAR

MULTI-CULTURAL NEWS GLOBAL NETWORK

JANUARY 2025

LEONARD PELTIER FREE! | INDIGENOUS MEDIA LIBERATED ~ JOURNALISM ANEW pg2

From Boarding School to the Barrio

The Effects of Historical Trauma

by Christina 'Nina' Madriles, MBA

For more than 100 years, Native American children were forcibly removed from their families and communities. Boarding schools and the effects of its cultural genocide are a part of our history that is finally being discussed. In 2021, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report published in May 2022, which speaks on the US policies that were used to justify the assimilation of Indian children in the United States. In July 2024, a follow-up report provided details on the number of

children who were forced into the US boarding schools and the 973 reported children who lost their lives to this neglect inflicted on them by this government.

On December 20, 2024, the TRUTH AND HEALING COMMISSION ON INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL POLICIES ACT; Congressional Record Vol. 170, No. 190 was presented to urge the President to call for the Federal Commission to investigate the Federal Indian boarding era and to recognize the laws made by the US government to assimilate American Indians.

Intergenerational trauma was caused by federal laws, Indian policies, and the enthusiasm of the government to eradicate our ancestors by way of assimilation, which intended to terminate our languages, cultures,

religions, and connections to ancestral lands. Our relatives had to endure psychological, physical, sexual, and mental abuse due to enforced removal from their homes and community. My grandmother, Amelia Macias, was one of those children removed from her home and made a servant through the

Sherman Indian Institute's involuntary labor. Children were used to supplement funding for the school and worked in the owned and operated Sherman Farm. Girls such as my grandmother Amelia were placed in white homes as maids and often abused and neglected by their

SEE **Boarding School**, page 2

We Are Still Here

Táxliswetem múlu k chemyáxwe mu chemqal.

The first native people say, "We are still here."

HishTáxliswetem múlu'ukvichem chémyaxwe(n), "Mú chemqál."

Chem Táxliswetem, Chemsun kill ngi i. HishTáxliswetem, chémsun kill mípa' ngí'í.

We are Cahuilla; our hearts have never left.

Chem táxvukeningqa. Taxchemvukméninwe(n).

We change like the seasons.

Táspá, chem páluwe áyaxwe sélekí'sh sé ish. Táspá, chempáluwe(n), áyaxwe(n) úshul sélekí'chí'.

Spring, we are beautiful like the red rose.

Táwpá, chem wé wenem áyaxwe Táwpá méa ti. Táwpá chemwéwenwe(n), áyaxwe(n) táwpá méati.

Summer, we rise like the summer sunbeam.

Síva - Chem áyaxwe Síva. Yuchíwivá, chemtáxaw héveve', áyaxwe(n) yuchíwivá xélla'li'.

Fall, we are soft like a blanket in Autumn.

Pén áyaxwe Támivá, chem ívawet, áyaxwe ya i. Pén chemkíyawe(n), áyaxwe(n) támivá wéwnish wéle'tí', chem'ívawe(n).

And we survive like the winter storm; we are strong.

Táxliswetem múlu k chemyáxwe mu chemqal. HishTáxliswetem múlu'ukvichem chémyaxwe(n), "Mú' chemqál."

Rebuilding Community

by April Nurse

Researchers keep saying we're lonelier than ever. We're spending record amounts of time alone. We are overwhelmed, stressed, and teetering on the brink of collapse. I feel that sometimes, but in rocks, I found an answer, a community.

Often, we see community as the group we curate with dedication and pride. They think like us, share our culture, blood, or values. If anybody dare tread on the fragile boundaries of our existence, the fences fall, and we retreat to the small inner circles we cultivate within those communities, a safe space where we feel vindicated and remain unchallenged. It doesn't have to be that way.

Vista Gem & Mineral started selling mystery boxes for rock lovers and their loved ones. As anticipated, people loved them because they are fun and informative. What we didn't anticipate was the time that we'd pour

into picking, packing, shipping, and cultivating a collection of minerals for the hungry minds of our audience. We called for volunteers, and a veritable army of ladies showed up to help and support.

Our first meeting was a disaster. Most couldn't identify all the minerals, not everybody had time management skills, and there was no way to grab attention without yelling. We spent more time fixing the boxes than putting them together. I almost gave up on asking for

help entirely. Thankfully, we tried again.

Things went much more smoothly. There were hiccups, of course. This time, to combat the chaos, we created structure. Lots of labels, lots of organization, and clear, easy directions changed everything. Suddenly, there was ease amongst all, grace for the inexperienced, and a steady momentum that shifted the dynamic. There were still mistakes, still tension, but now we were invested.

Third time, it clicked. The oldest

member was in her eighties, the youngest, in her twenties. Somehow, we still found so much to talk about. We found commonalities in food, music, travel, stress, and so much more. I watched people open up. Not every contribution was received well. Not every joke got a laugh and were open enough to talk about it. But there was no shame, just authenticity.

Months later, I stood with them, pizza in hand, listening to stories and laughter.

SEE **Community 15**

We are the World



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Johnson Family Properties

"...stopping non-essential spending."
Mayor Todd Gloria 1/15/2025

by Bob Levis, homunculus.us

I am writing today as a proposed principal in a memorandum of understanding (MOU), regarding the Johnson Family Properties centered on the acknowledged Kumeyaay Tribal land.

I was present at the San Diego Court proceeding on January 8, 2025. I witnessed a huge sigh of relief after Mr. Jimmie W. Johnson and Taisha Hernandez, his daughter and POA (Power of Attorney), were granted a continuance until April 11th. This continuance will give Taisha ample time to file an agreed-upon conservatorship for her father and his estate. The tension in the courtroom was palpable as Judge Marcella O. McLaughlin silenced all parties while she reviewed the court filings. These filings included a request to change receivers, the power of attorney paperwork, and documentation regarding her father Jimmy Johnson's mental state. It must have finally been clear to the judge that the family has been under duress for over a decade. Mr. Johnson's wife, Ernestine, rapidly declined after retiring from many years of teaching at Lincoln High School and finishing at Clairemont High. She found it increasingly difficult to handle the pressure of maintaining the properties and the family's finances, particularly after having been forced to pay \$40,000 for the first abatement levied against their property. The vacant land in Council District 9 attracted homeless veterans and their band of brothers/sisters. Mr. Johnson, an elderly disabled Vietnam veteran, was sympathetic to their plight.

Mr. Johnson lacked adequate legal counsel, which allowed the city to attach more abatements and a permanent injunction using the accumulation of debris as justification. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson's health continued to decline. Their doctors insisted they try and reduce the stress of their living conditions, but the constant harassment took a toll.

Ernestine Johnson passed away in 2019 after battling Alzheimer's disease. The city aggressively applied pressure to pay property taxes and liens and, in some cases, unconstitutional infractions were forced upon Mr. and Mrs. Johnson's properties without any concern for their noted mental conditions. Jimmy W. Johnson was admitted into a senior nursing facility where he resides today. He signed over his power of attorney to his eldest daughter Taisha who attempted to work peacefully with the city. She diligently kept letters of agency (LOAs) and made an official Request for Extra Patrol. Despite these good faith efforts, the city has been slow, seemingly even reluctant, to work with her. Subsequently, real estate agents began circling, looking to acquire the prime San Diego acreage at a low price. One such individual, knowing Taisha held her father's power of attorney, even went to the post-acute senior nursing facility where Mr. Johnson resides and attempted to get him to sign over the deed to his property without Taisha's presence. This has made her wary, and she questions paying a receiver \$9,000 dollars a month for securing her own property. She smells a scam. So do I.

Over the next few months, we will see who will be chosen to develop the properties, which comprise three lots and several parcels, many of which have a pleasant view overlooking downtown San Diego and the Coronado Bridge. I will provide regular updates on this situation.

and childhood trauma is crucial. Whether our ancestors moved from the Boarding School to the Barrio or returned to their communities, these illnesses continue to harm us and future generations. But we can empower ourselves and our communities by openly discussing these subjects and striving for cultural and language revitalization.

As part of my effort to regain what has been lost through the Boarding School era, I attended Cahuilla language classes, and my classmates and I wrote a poem. As Indigenous people, we must hold on to our stories, language, teachings, and ceremonies. This poem is for our ancestors who have experienced trauma through the boarding school era, for those who lost their lives, and for those who experienced cultural genocide at the hands of the mission system and governmental entities.

Boarding School

Continued from page 1

so-called employers.

In 2000, the United States Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Kevin Gover (Pawnee), stated: "The trauma of shame, fear and anger has passed from one generation to the next, and manifests itself in the rampant alcoholism, drug abuse, and domestic violence that plague Indian country. Many of our people live lives of unrelenting tragedy as Indian families suffer the ruin of lives by alcoholism, suicides made of shame and despair, and violent death at the hands of one another." Former Viejas Chairman Anthony Pico stated, "We who have suffered childhood trauma, die early from suicide, auto accidents, drug overdose, homicide, alcoholism, cancer, and poor health. Early death stalks us at every turn".

Understanding the effects of historical

Executive Grant of Clemency

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
President of the United States of America

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

I HEREBY COMMUTE the remainder of the total sentence of imprisonment imposed upon **LEONARD PELTIER**, Reg. No. **89637-132**, to be served in its entirety on home confinement, to take effect on **February 18, 2025**. I leave intact all other components of the sentence.

I HEREBY DESIGNATE, direct, and empower the Pardon Attorney, as my representative, to deliver to the Bureau of Prisons a certified copy of the signed warrant as evidence of my action in order to carry into effect the terms of these grants of clemency, and to deliver a certified copy of the signed warrant to each person to whom I have granted clemency as evidence of my action.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the Department of Justice to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 19th day of January in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Five and of the Independence of the United States the Two Hundred and Forty-Ninth.



Joseph R. Biden Jr.
JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.
President



INDIAN VOICES

Multicultural News from an American Indian Perspective

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indianvoices.net and Indigenousnetwork.org

Indigenous Thinking About Artificial Intelligence

by Hektor D. Esparza

It was late December when Indian Voices' publisher Rose Davis floated the idea that I write a brief missive on Indigenous thought and artificial intelligence. Neither of us are anti-technology, per se. We both work in print news, as well as digital media. We own smartphones. We use Google. We're on the internet pretty much every day, and as a result, AI is now a part of our lives. For the most part, technology adds to the quality of life. But what does it take?

It was a day or two later that a comical scene addressing the topic played out in front of my eyes.

Two young people were waiting at a bus stop and arguing about what time the bus would arrive. Both had smartphones: one had an iPhone, the other an Android.

Neither could get the bus rider app to work on their respective devices. Both seemed to accept their state of learned helplessness.

An older gentleman, also waiting for the bus, rose from his seat and stated confidently, "The bus will arrive in about six minutes."

"Oh, that's good to hear, but how do you know?" said one of the young people.

The gentleman replied, "The sun is still high in the eastern sky, so I know it is morning. My stomach is not yet demanding lunch, so I know it is before noon. It is a weekday, and on weekdays, the bus runs every hour. And most importantly, I can see our bus at a stoplight two intersections away."

This wasn't exactly an example of artificial intelligence pitted against Indigenous intelligence, but it was an

illustration of overdependence on technology. The option of lifting their eyes from their phone screens to look down the road had been deleted from their minds. It makes one wonder what other aspects of reality are being deleted in favor of their electronic, virtual, and artificial counterparts.

In 1995, Willie Ermine wrote, "Indigenous philosophies are underlain by a worldview of interrelationships among the spiritual, the natural and the self, forming the foundation or beginnings of Indigenous ways of knowing and being."

In our present day, I humbly ask: Is being in a solitary digital "space" and reading news online, which was specifically tailored to individual tastes, and written by artificial intelligence... truly an improvement over sharing in the collective experience of reading a physical

newspaper written by real people with *actual intelligence*? Human writers belong to communities and have souls. AI news-bots do not.

More recently, in *American Indian Politics and The American Political System*, author David Wilkins wrote, "Most white philanthropists agreed that the Indians' tribal social structure, generally founded on common stewardship of land, was the major obstacle to their 'progress' toward civilization."

The perspectives of Ermine and Wilkins are decidedly more wholistic. As is much of Indigenous thought around the world and throughout time. It is thinking that holds the individual, not as the center of a universe digitally designed for it, but views the individual as but one member of a vast collective of all other things.

3rd Annual California Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) Summit

The Yurok Tribe invites you to the 3rd Annual California Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Summit.

Date and time: February 25 · 1pm - February 26 · 5pm PST

Location: Pala Casino Spa Resort
11154 California 76 Pala, CA 92059

Refund Policy: Refunds up to 7 days before event

Eventbrite's fee is nonrefundable.

About this event: Event lasts 1 day 4 hours. Free venue parking

SAVE THE DATES - The Yurok Tribe is proud to announce the 3rd Annual Missing and Murdered Indigenous People ("MMIP") Summit is scheduled for February 25th-26th, 2025 and would like to invite all Indigenous People and our allies to participate.

Tuesday, February 25th, 2025 | The Summit & Welcoming Dinner

1:00pm - Registration opens

2:00pm - The Summit

The primary goal of the Summit is to give a voice to California's missing and murdered Indigenous People and their



families. For too long, Indigenous People have been invisible throughout the state.

5:00 pm - 7:00pm - Cultural Sharing & Welcoming Dinner

The day will end with a MMIP Summit welcoming dinner that will feature a cultural sharing involving tribes from northern, central and southern California.

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025 | The MMIP Policy Summit

10:00am - 5:00pm - The Summit

The Summit will bring together tribal leaders from across the state, MMIP survivors and victim advocates as well as state lawmakers, federal partners, law enforcement and academic researchers to identify solutions to stop the crisis.

We will have panels and keynote speakers, including Tribal leaders, legislators, partners in Justice, the families of MMIP victims and MMIP survivors.

More information to follow. Please check back for updates.

Exhibitors/Vendors: Secure your spot now! If you would like to reserve a table for your organization or arts and crafts, please utilize in the ticket area below by February 14th, 2025. Space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. There's no cost for the table, but donations are greatly appreciated.

Charitable contributions are needed: These events are critical to build momentum, support, and continued advocacy to address MMIP now, and in the years to come. Please



contact MMIP@yuroktribe.nsn.us to help ensure we have another successful event. Thank you.

Hotel Room Block: Group Code: G25MMIPSUMMIT

Arrival Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 to **Departure Date:** Thursday, February 27, 2025

visit:
IndigenousNetwork.org



Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA)

by Kevin Thompson

The Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA) came into being as a result of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King and a decade of protests, mostly by Black Americans.

Dr. King was killed on April 4, 1968, and as many Black people rioted in reaction, President Johnson signed the new Civil Rights Law into effect on April 10.

This act, officially known as the Civil Rights Act of 1968, guaranteed that American Indians would enjoy all the rights already in the Constitution, not just from the federal government, but from their own Tribal governments.

But the Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA) is only part of the 1968 Act. Other portions are the Fair Housing Act, banning housing discrimination on the basis of race, and the H. Rap Brown Act, which deals with accusations of carrying firearms across state lines with the intent to incite rioting. (The activist H. Rap Brown is currently in federal prison on later charges, and advocates are requesting President Biden to grant him clemency as he is terminally ill.)

Even US Hate Crime Laws are based on the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Another result was the Division of Indian Health was elevated to a federal bureau. The 1973

Wounded Knee Occupation was actually based on dissatisfaction with the elected Sioux government, though it is unclear if the Indian Civil Rights Act was invoked at any time during the 71-day Occupation.

Though Civil Rights is usually framed as a Black issue, and it was the fires of the King riots that got president LBJ to sign such sweeping legislation, the name that has stuck with the 1968 Civil Rights Act is the "Indian Civil Rights Act."

This is surprising because the most high-profile Indian protests of the era, Alcatraz (1969-70) and Wounded Knee (1973), happened after the passage of the Indian Civil Rights Act. It was 14 years of Black Civil Rights activism, from the 1954 murder of Emmet Till and the Montgomery Bus Boycott to the numerous other marches and battles, that got the Indian Civil Rights Act passed. Mrs. Rosa Parks and MLK's wife, Coretta, were Civil Rights activists of part-Indian origin.

Or maybe it is a federal admission that many Indian people and Black people are the same people.

References:

Civil Rights Act of 1968, Wikipedia
The Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA) Created to Benefit Blacks and Indians

served in the 6888. In fact, a military photo of my aunt appears on the movie poster of Tyler Perry's film "The Six Triple Eight," which stars Kerry Washington.

As we entered 2025, I decided to do some extensive research on my family's genealogy. Again I unearthed information on my father's maternal grandfather Frank Lewis.

Lewis was a member of the 9th Calvary of Buffalo Soldiers. The Buffalo Soldiers represented the first Black professional soldiers in a peacetime army who served on the American frontier. The recruits came from varied

backgrounds, including from slaves and veterans from service in the Civil War.

The obstacles the Ninth Cavalry of the Buffalo Soldiers faced were racial prejudice, ambushes, hasty attacks, opposition from the Lipan, Mescalero, and Warm Springs Apache, as well as the Comanche and Kiowa on the Texas and New Mexican frontiers. They also encountered systemic prejudice within the military, and they were the victims of slurs, beatings, harassment by law officers,



Historic Investigation of U.S. Boarding Schools for Native Children Ends With Scathing Report

by Niko Georgiades, Unicorn Riot

For the first time in its 248-year existence, the United States government investigated its own Federal Indian Boarding Schools, a genocidal element of the racist settler colonial project by which the country was formed. From the passage of the Civilization Fund Act in 1819 up until 1969, the U.S. government stole Indigenous children from their parents, and separated and killed family members as part of a broader policy to steal territory and sever the cultural, economic and spiritual ties between Indigenous peoples.

Children were forced into boarding schools to assimilate to the European settlers' way of life. They lived in harsh conditions and were subjected to forms of physical, emotional and sexual abuse, death, disease, and starvation. Indigenous children dealt with a full erasure of their identity — having their physical appearance altered, names changed, and Christianity forced upon them. The justification used by the U.S. government was to "kill the Indian, save the man," as said by Richard Henry Pratt, the founder of the first boarding school, Carlisle Indian Industrial School.

Launched by U.S. Dept. of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland — the first Indigenous person to hold the position —



U.S. Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland, Laguna Pueblo, visits Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, California on August 4, 2023 for the Dept. of Interior's "Road to Healing" session.

Photo: Darren Thompson

the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative included a lengthy fact-finding mission along and a pathway for the government to pave a road to healing.

"For the first time in the history of the country, the U.S.

Government is accounting for its role in operating Indian boarding schools to forcibly assimilate Indian children, and working to set us on a path to heal from the wounds inflicted by those schools," wrote U.S. Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland in the investigative report.

The investigation reviewed 103 million pages of records and produced two investigative reports profiling 417 boarding schools and 1,025 assimilationist institutions. The research found an estimated \$23.3 billion in FY23 inflation-adjusted dollars was spent on the boarding school system, which "at least 18,624 Indian children entered."

The government confirmed that at least 973 American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children died while attending Federal Indian boarding schools and 74 marked and unmarked burial sites were discovered at 65 different school sites across 37 states or then-territories.

Furthermore, 127 different Treaties

SEE **Boarding School Report**, page 14

Roots Unearthed: A Journey into My Ancestral Past

by Donna Dymally

I spent 2024 discovering my family's historical past.

I learned my aunt, Vivian Fitzsimmons, was a member of the Women's Army Corps, particularly the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. This battalion was a primarily African American female unit during World War II.



The 6888 (Six Triple Eight) was best known for its remarkable contributions to the war effort, particularly in addressing the severe backlog of mail for U.S. service men stationed in Europe. Over 17 million pieces of mail were backlogged due to disruptions from wartime logistics. The 6888 tirelessly worked in shifts, sorting and redirecting mail.

Their efforts ensured American soldiers received their long-awaited packages and letters from home. Their efforts resulted in clearing the backlog in just six months. Their motto was "No Mail - Low Morale."

This battalion remains a powerful symbol of resilience, service, and the contributions of African American women during World War II.

Little did I know that in June 2021, when I was asked to photograph several events for this battalion, that my aunt had

and, on several occasions, sniper attacks.

The nickname "Buffalo Soldiers" was purportedly given to the regiments by the American Indian tribes who fought against them during the American Indian Wars.

This regiment saw combat during the Indian and Spanish-American Wars. During the Westward Expansion, the regiment provided escort for the early western settlers and maintained peace on the American frontier. Their motto was "We Can, We Will."

Last but not least, I uncovered my great-great-grandfather Paul Fitzsimmons, who was an Irish slave owner. He released my paternal great-grandmother, Liberia Murphy, from slavery, and she married his mulatto son, my great-grandfather Thomas Fitzsimmons in 1871.

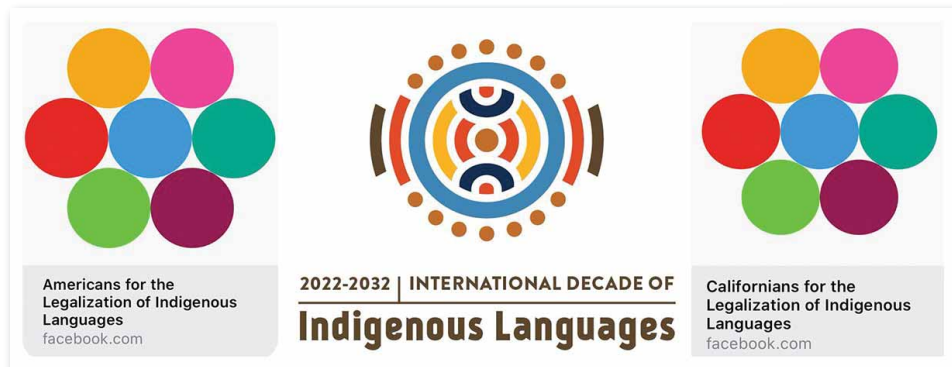
When an individual takes it upon themselves to dive deep into their own family's history, they can understand how their family interacted with larger historical events. I am certainly delighted I made the leap in unearthing my historical background.



Norrie Robbins at the People's March, San Diego, Jan. 19, 2025

visit: Indigenousnetwork.org

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES



Vindicating Indigenous Linguistic Human Rights in North America



by Michael Odegaard,
Indigenous Languages
Editor

(This article draws heavily from Pierre Foucher, "Court Challenges and Linguistic Human Rights: The Canadian Case," Chapter 35 of

The Handbook of Linguistic Human Rights, copyright 2023, by John Wiley & Sons)

While the concept of linguistic rights is intrinsically linked to broader human rights principles, the United Nations explicitly recognized them in 1992 as human rights with the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, highlighting the importance of protecting and promoting the languages of such groups. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted in 1948, lays the foundation for human rights, including those related to language, but does not explicitly address linguistic rights in the same detail as the 1992 Declaration. The Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights, adopted in 1996 further emphasizes the importance of linguistic rights and provides a framework for their protection. Among North American states Canada has realized the highest degree of success in implementing linguistic human rights (LHR) legislation.

Early Canadian constitutional texts from 1867 through 1905 created an obligation to print and publish legislation in French and English; failure to abide by this obligation nullified all unilingual legislation. Premised on the personality model of language planning, these acts are founded on the premise distributed obligations between both federal and provincial authorities created rights to use English or French in Court proceedings, in Parliament, and, with the 1985 passage of the Official Languages Act (OLA) which institutes the role of a Commissioner of Official Languages (having considerable nonbinding investigative powers to document systemic violations of LHRs) for the first time in government communications and services. In 1977 Quebec decided to break away from the personality model and opted for a

territorial model and imposed French as the compulsory and often unique language authorized within its territory, including in the private sector. Jurisprudence then became a dominant feature of Canadian language policy as well as provides an alternative means of vindicating LHRs.

Canadian constitutional LHR pertain only to the official bilingualism guaranteed by the Charter section 16 which proclaims that French and English are the official languages of Canada and of New-Brunswick; the linguistic equality enjoyed by both languages has been interpreted as being true and not formal equality, meaning they have equal rights with regard to their use in Federal and New-Brunswick institutions. All statutes, records and journals are to be printed and published in both languages, each version being equally authoritative. This right is a personal and individual one, pertaining to every participant in the proceeding. Accused persons have the right to a criminal trial to be heard in their official language. The restrictive rule of interpretation stated in *Societ des Acadiens* was premised on the fact that language rights are the consequence of a political compromise and thus had to be interpreted more restrictively than other Human Rights, but this interpretive rule has since been displaced by a new one in the Criminal Code of Canada, s. 530 and 530.1(d) and (e) stating that like any other Human Rights, Language Rights "must be interpreted purposively, in a manner consistent with the development of official language communities in Canada."

One needs to have standing in order to access the court system. Standing is justified when the plaintiff is directly impacted by any government decision infringing on LHR. More often than not, however, NGOs have to step in and initiate judicial procedures asking the court for public interest standing which are granted under three conditions easily met by minority language associations or minority language school boards: 1) a matter of public interest, and constitutional matters are presumed to be so; 2) the group seeking standing have an interest in the issue; 3) a court challenge must be a reasonable way to bring the matter to the court's attention.

SEE **Vindicating Rights**, page 7

JOURNALIST'S NETWORK

Juicing, Suing, Expanding, Reviving Local News

This week, Nieman Lab wrote about the many things you can do with — or to — local news.

Juice it. OpenAI will fund four new Axios Local newsrooms, in Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Boulder, and Huntsville. While the ChatGPT parent company has fingers (tentacles?) in all sort of newsroom initiatives, this is the first time it's directly paying for newsroom launches. That funding lasts three years, Axios CEO Jim VandeHei told me. "This deal only took off when the conversation turned to juicing local news, for us but also in ways that might help others," he said. "We were skeptical any company would care enough to put deep thought into it — but OpenAI did. We spent six months brainstorming and came up with something exciting to us and them. It is purely additive to our Axios Local project — nothing we do depends on OpenAI but everything we do could be improved with their AI savvy."

Sue it. The Des Moines Register faces a second Trumpy lawsuit over Ann Selzer's November 2 Iowa poll showing Kamala Harris ahead of Trump. (Trump ended up winning the state by about 13 points.) A conservative law firm filed the suit on behalf of a Register subscriber who apparently wants his \$69.99 (the cost of a one-year digital subscription) back. The lawsuit has "a familiar Trumpian bombast,

and trots out both typical and more tailored rightwing attack lines against mainstream media," Sophie wrote — but also includes "the occasional echoes of reasonable critiques of the media. Though co-opted, distorted, and weaponized for partisan purposes here, threads running through the case reflect the ways many Americans feel alienated by and distrustful of the press, polls, and experts."

Expand it. The Conversation is trying to make its academia-fueled model work for local news, Josh reported. The Conversation Local, now a year old, "has launched in four markets across the U.S., connecting experts at local universities to local issues and distributing their work for free to dozens of local news outlets — most in those markets, but sometimes beyond." You can see the most recent stories here.

Revive it. New research shows that statehouse reporting — long seen as a beleaguered beat — could be primed for a comeback. At least in one state, "narratives of decline are more misleading than clarifying," Matthew Powers of the University of Washington wrote for us. "It would be facile to imply a return to any mythical golden age, or declare without reservations a bright future. It does, however, suggest a revitalization of statehouse reporting."

Laura Hazard Owen, Nieman Lab

INDIAN VOICES BURDEN BASKET

Dear Friends, Supporters and advocates of Indigenous Liberation.

We at INDIAN VOICES remain dedicated to our mission and will continue pushing toward our goal in assisting to inform, educate and promote the cultural values that reflect and bond us together.

This awesome responsibility comes with hardships that must be shared as we continue the journey. We must continue

to connect while emphasizing the positive aspects of this mission. We will be improving our networking skills to reach out and ask for much needed support from the community. We need volunteers in every area... Outreach... writers, ad sales, grant writing, moral/spiritual support.

Let's Help Each Other... Each One Teach One!!! Contact Kena..702-624-9502

Prophecy of Crazy Horse

Statement from The Great Lakota Warrior Crazy Horse.

"Upon suffering beyond suffering; the Red Nation shall rise again and it shall be a blessing for a sick world.

A world filled with broken promises, selfishness and separations.

A world longing for light again.

I see a time of seven generations when all the colors of mankind will gather under the sacred Tree of Life and the whole Earth will become one circle again.

In that day there will be those among the Lakota who will carry knowledge and understanding of unity among all living things, and the young white ones will come to those of my people and ask for this wisdom.

I salute the light within your eyes where the whole universe dwells.

For when you are at that center within you and I am in that place within me, we shall be as one."



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).

Annual Seminole Maroon Spiritual Remembrance

by Windy Goodloe, secretary, Seminole Indian Scouts Cemetery Association

From Saturday, January 18 to Sunday, January 19, Florida Black Historical Research Inc. (FBHRP Inc.) held its annual event titled "The 187th Anniversary Annual Seminole Maroon Spiritual Remembrance of the Two 1838 Battles of the Loxahatchee River" in Jupiter, Florida. This year's theme was "No Quarter! The Saga of the 'Negro Fort' Settlement at Prospect Bluff," which is located in Apalachicola, Florida, and was a prelude to the Seminole Wars. This theme continues the FBHRP Inc.'s overall mission of "Telling the Full History."

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On Saturday afternoon, attendees gathered at the West Jupiter Community and Recreation Center. The theme of this special forum was titled "Florida's Black Frontier" and was moderated by Ms. Antoinette Riley, who is on the FBHRP Inc.'s board. Ms. Gwendolyn Ferguson, with the African American Research Library and Cultural Center of Palm Beach County, gave the invocation. Following the invocation, Dr. Wallis Tinnie, who is also a FBHRP Inc. board member, welcomed everyone and invited us all to eat before the program began.

After dining on a wonderfully catered meal that consisted of curry chicken sliders, meatballs in a savory sauce, a colorful pasta salad, spring rolls, and peach cobbler, Dr. Anthony Dixon, author of Florida's Negro War and writer/producer of the Black Seminole Project, kicked things off. He gave a general overview of the history of the Negro Fort and the events that led up to the First Seminole War.

Following Dr. Dixon, Mr. Willard "Bill" Steele, historian and archaeologist, spoke about "Florida's Black Frontier." Interestingly and to my delight, he spoke about Brackettville and Nacimiento and also shared pictures of both places in his slides. He ended his talk with a photo of three young men on horses who were related to Corina Torralba, our treasurer.

On Sunday, we gathered at the Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park at 10:00 a.m. This part of the event was titled "Battlefield Spiritual Remembrance" and was hosted by Mr. Dinizulu Gene Tinnie, who is a FBHRP Inc. board member. The opening Indigenous blessing of the land was done by Raining Deer, who is Iyeska, Powhatan, and a member

of the Cox Osceola Seminole Tribe of Orange Springs, Florida. She had walked the area, purifying it with sage, before the program began. She also invited everyone to be saged after she finished her ceremony. Following Raining Deer, Nana Mena Yaa and her family performed a traditional libation ritual. It was beautiful and sacred. Next, Ms. Maritza Santan, who is an ayurveda specialist, led the crowd in a short meditation. Following this beautiful reminder to breathe and center ourselves, Fluteity, who is a member of the University of Florida Affiliate Faculty Center for Arts, Migration + Entrepreneurship (CAME), used the flute to heal the sacred site at which we had all gathered. She spoke about how the flute was healing and used for reconciliation. She had us close our eyes, place both feet on the ground, and place our hands over our hearts while she played. Doing this seemed to help us connect with the music on a deeper level.

Following Fluteity, Mr. Richard Wilder and the Buffalo Soldiers presented the colors. Once the flags had been placed, "Taps" was played to honor all of the fallen. Following the presentation of colors, Derek Hankerson, president of the Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservations, gave the welcome. Dr. Wallis Tinnie gave a beautifully moving tribute to our ancestors as she read "Somebody Forgot to Telly Somebody Something" by Jennifer Lisa Vest. Dr. Anthony Dixon took on both introduction

visit:
IndigenousNetwork.org



and speaker duties as Mr. Dale Cox, one of the featured speakers, unfortunately had to cancel. Following Dr. Dixon's presentation, Mr. Willard Steel spoke. The title of his talk was "Archaeology Today: In and Around Tallahassee, Florida." Following both presentations, the audience asked questions and then were treated to another wonderful lunch.

And on a personal note: I was delighted to see my little friend NuNu, who is one year older and definitely one year wiser. We hugged as soon as we saw each other. Then, she took me to see a display that she and several other children had made using grains, beans, and flowers. She explained how the circular pattern that was divided into four sections represented everyone who lived on the earth. She explained the importance of the corn, rose petals, lentils, rice, and black beans that had been used. Just as she did last year, she taught me something new. Knowing NuNu means knowing the future is in good hands.

You Are Invited...

The 187th Anniversary Annual SEMINOLE MAROON REMEMBRANCE
of the 1838 Battles of the Loxahatchee River
Jupiter, Florida, U.S.A.

2025 SPECIAL THEME:
"NO QUARTER! THE SAGA OF THE 'NEGRO FORT' SETTLEMENT AT PROSPECT BLUFF
Prelude to the Seminole War(s)

On Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Weekend
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18
3:00 PM
WEST JUPITER COMMUNITY AND RECREATION CENTER
6401 W. INDIANTOWN ROAD

Willard "Bill" Steele, former historian for the Seminole Tribe of Indians of Florida, will speak on "Florida's Black Frontier," focusing on early 1800s Black settlements on the peninsula.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
10:00 AM
LOXAHATCHEE RIVER BATTLEFIELD PARK
(IN RIVERBEND PARK) 9060 W. INDIANTOWN ROAD

ANNUAL BATTLEFIELD SPIRITUAL REMEMBRANCE
Honoring the memory of All of the Fallen in the Two Battles of the Loxahatchee River and of those deported on the Trail of Tears, with rituals, prayers, live performances, and featuring Dale Cox, author of The Fort at Prospect Bluff.

Both days will feature overviews by
Dr. Anthony Etim Dixon, author of Florida's Negro War.

Presented by Florida Black Historical Research Project, Inc. in cooperation with Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservations and The Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation Department. Admission to These Events is Free and Open to the Public. For further information, call 561-741-1359 or visit www.fbhrpinc.org.



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City of San Diego Unveils ‘I Am San Diego’ Community Voices Project

Conversations Recorded In Collaboration With StoryCorps Studios Will Be Archived In The Library Of Congress

SAN DIEGO – As part of the I Am San Diego project, the City of San Diego has collaborated with nonprofit StoryCorps Studios to produce conversations between San Diegans, capturing their unique and diverse experiences as they live and work in the nation's 8th largest city. These honest and heartwarming conversations are now being shared publicly and will be archived in the Library of Congress.

Over the course of a week this past summer at the San Diego Central Library in Downtown, StoryCorps Studios recorded the stories of people who call San Diego home. Participants were invited to chat with a friend, relative or colleague. The conversations capture a moment in time and represent a cross-section of the city with participants from every City Council district.

San Diegans are also invited to record their own stories, by visiting the website and recording an interview themselves with a friend or loved one.

“By preserving these conversations, we’re honoring the experiences of our residents and creating a lasting legacy for future generations to understand and appreciate what it means to be a San Diegan,” Mayor Todd Gloria said. “I know that as people explore these stories, they’ll consider adding their own. The more stories we capture, the more this website will reflect the rich diversity of our city.”

The collection is now available for anyone to listen on the City’s I Am San Diego website. Featured conversations include educators from Perkins Elementary School in Barrio Logan, neighbors who survived the 2003 Cedar Fire, a married couple who immigrated to San Diego from India, sisters who are passionate about preserving their heritage, a park ranger who spent 25 years working in Balboa Park

and an animated video highlighting a conversation between San Diego Fire-Rescue Chief Robert Logan and his friend Capt. Jason Shanley.

More than 35 people participated in the project. Additional recordings are available for listeners to enjoy on the City of Diego’s StoryCorps archive page.

To ensure these stories are saved for future generations, the recorded conversations will be archived in the Library of Congress and more San Diegans are invited to share their own stories as part of the online audio time capsule.

“I Am San Diego is a way for residents to share their individual experiences and for others to learn from them,” said Library Director Misty Jones. “This project captures many of the voices, perspectives and stories of the people who call San Diego home. By listening and adding to this diverse collection, we can gain a better understanding of what makes San Diego such a unique city.”

“StoryCorps’ mission is to help us believe in each other by illuminating the humanity and possibility in us all — one story at a time,” said Caitlin Moses Bowser, Managing Director of StoryCorps Studios. “We are grateful to the City of San Diego for trusting StoryCorps Studios to highlight the city’s dedication to cultural and social progress through the stories from inspiring community members. We hope that this collection deepens community connections and sparks meaningful dialogue.”

I Am San Diego, first announced in January 2022, is an ongoing effort to build empathy and understanding around how embracing diversity is an essential part of sustaining inclusive communities.

About StoryCorps Studios: StoryCorps Studios, the brand studio of StoryCorps, offers an award-winning approach to storytelling centered on the belief that everyone has a story to tell. StoryCorps Studios facilitates personal conversations between people who care about each other to create authentic content that resonates. The StoryCorps model is built on 20 years of public trust with over half a million participants.

community with individuals being made co-plaintiffs to the litigation

More than 50 years after LHRs started in Canada they have had a mixed record. They succeeded in enhancing the minority linguistic communities’ awareness of the importance of exercising their rights, empowering them to confront hostile or indifferent governments legally and in a peaceful way, and in the education field, they were at the root of major changes in the school system. However they did not succeed in curbing the demographic pressures that threaten the future of the French language and culture in Canada. If the goal is to develop minority linguistic communities more robust measures and government help are required, which then becomes a political choice of whether citizens truly believe that minority languages and the communities who speak them deserve a special place in Canada.

“Stop the Hate” – A 2025 Luiseno Legacy at Balderrama

by Joanne Tawfilis (PhD, Fine Arts)

I waited to write about this mural piece at Joe Balderrama Park because I wanted to give the artists time to finish this important gazebo in the Eastside historical cultural district of Oceanside. I must begin with a memo I wrote to myself about how I am aware that the presence of the local Luiseno Indigenous community has been of major concern to Mayor Sanchez. She used her voice to express concern during a City Council Measure X initiative that was providing funding to a local NGO. From her heart and my seat in the Council Chambers of Oceanside, I heard her say she did not want the local Indigenous people and tribe to be forgotten and that we should all remember we were sitting on lands they once occupied.

I was extremely proud of her for speaking up, since over the past few years, I have been fortunate enough to learn more about the Luiseno because of my friendship with Diania and Mel and others from the tribe through cultural and social events, including the Valley Arts Festival, now enjoying support from local philanthropic organizations. There is also the Indian Voices newspaper, which is published by a dedicated editor, Ms. Rose Davis, who is better known in the print media world as “Black Indian Rose.” This remarkable woman has almost single-handedly brought people together as a community to not only be the basis of communication and interaction, but as a real vehicle to help keep the presence of the local Indigenous tribes and other cultural organizations illuminated regarding their efforts.

When this project started, they were among the first to offer a small grant that would ensure their presence at the park with the mural project. I can think of no better way to not only install great art, but to have a legacy visible for children, youth and adults to always be aware of the existence and the trials and tribulations, suffering and genocide of

people of color. History has a clear understanding and documented background of racism, bigotry, and intolerance that has made these people victims and stolen lands subjected to many Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) rules and regulations concerning official federal recognition.

With the local Luisenos, whose many cousins live in San Diego County and beyond, the dilemma here is that their specific lands were taken over by the Spanish, meaning there were no grants for a reservation, thus no recognition, and coupled with the passing of elders, only made it more difficult for them to seek the same status as over 500 other tribes. But the tribal members that do live here worked hard to keep the cultural traditions alive, and for the past few years, there has been an increase in activism that seems to be working.

Balderrama Park has a history of its own, and over time, the transition from a more diverse neighborhood to a majority population of Mexican-Americans has occurred. Former Islanders, African Americans, and Native Americans have seen a large exodus of these other people of color. Through some former years, Balderrama earned a reputation as a place where there was gang warfare, street fighters, and crime. However, as with every evolution and decades, things change.

For me, as the facilitator of this huge Measure X project, the sponsorship of “Stop the Hate,” a campaign to do just that, will indeed (and already has) have a big effect on local populations. This message, painted on the four (4) pillars of the Indigenous gazebo have vibrant and colorful messages in visual form, along with very clever texts that serve well to educate all ages. They were painted by Marlene and PJ Fosselman and their children, as a tribute to the Luiseno and other “cousins” of the local tribe.

I watched Marlene paint with her heart as PJ and their daughter and grandchild “Foxy” created a living monument to remind us all that, in our world, regardless of color or tribal affiliation, “Stop the Hate” can be a positive impact toward building the culture of peace. Through mural and visual arts, the messages seem stronger and understandable, and as generations

SEE **Stop the Hate**, page 10

Vindicating Rights

Continued from page 5

Often used in LHRs by NGOs, seeking intervenor status is an alternative method of participating in a court challenge as an amicus curiae, a disinterested party who can contribute to the debate by shining a light on a particular issue or consequence of the legal challenge. Damages are another way to vindicate LHRs. Judicial challenges are expensive and depend on various factors, first of which is the will of the rights-bearers to assert their rights which costs often compete against the challenges many face obtaining more basic governmental services, as well as the social costs of hostility (predicated on “disturbing the peace” or “causing division in the community”) toward individual plaintiffs from either the majority or minority. This explains why most plaintiffs are NGOs representing a minority language



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36th Annual Martin Luther King Day Celebration

by Makeda Dread Cheatom

On Monday, January 20th, 2025, the WorldBeat Cultural Center hosted a



beautiful and glorious celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. As we continue to honor Dr. King's legacy, it is vital to reflect on his powerful message of unity, justice, and love. Dr. King's vision of the Beloved Community—a world grounded in compassion, equality, and collective action—aligns deeply with the mission of WorldBeat Center, which strives to empower and unite



communities through cultural exchange and education. This year's celebration brought together people from all walks of life, no matter their color, class, or creed, in a shared commitment to a brighter, more unified future.

The event featured an incredible lineup of artists and cultural expressions, including performances by Pato Banton & the Now Generation Band, Antoinette Rootsdawtah, Nikki Black, Nichelle



Monroe, Rashita Kelly, and Lone Angels. There was also a moving Native American blessing by Red Bird and the Red Warriors. Special guest speakers Dr. Richard Rose and Nikishia Garrett inspired the crowd with their reflections on Dr. King's teachings and the importance of actionable change in our communities.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Stand Up for Justice, Pato Banton, Antoinette Rootsdawtah, the dedicated volunteers, and Mystic Market for their invaluable involvement in making this event possible. Your contributions helped create a space for healing,



reflection, and celebration. We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to Pato Banton for spreading the message of Ubuntu—"I am because we are"—which resonates deeply with Dr. King's vision of



interconnectedness and collective responsibility.



WORLD BEAT CENTER

Bob Marley Peace Awards to be Presented at the 44th Annual Tribute To The Reggae Legends

The 44th Annual Tribute To The Reggae Legends will take place on February 21-22 at WorldBeat Cultural Center in San Diego, California. Nine artists will be honored with the Bob Marley Peace Award, including Toots Hibbert, Sister Nancy, Johnny Osbourne, Little John, Michael Palmer, Ranking Joe, Triston Palmer, Etana, and Warrior King. The event, founded by Makeda "Dread" Cheatom, will kick off with the "Virgin Island Meets Jamaica Sound System" on the first day, featuring performances by Michael Palmer, Ranking Joe, Dezarie, and Ninjah P. The second day, titled "Roots Legends," will close the tribute with performances from Sister Nancy, Johnny Osbourne, Warrior King, Etana, Triston Palmer, and Junior Toots, the son of the late Toots Hibbert.

Toots Hibbert, the legendary frontman of Toots and the Maytals, is considered one of the pioneers of reggae music. He is credited with helping popularize the genre, particularly through his energetic performances and unique fusion of ska, rocksteady, and reggae. Toots' powerful voice and innovative use of gospel and soul influences helped shape the sound of reggae. His hit songs like "Monkey Man," "Pressure Drop," and "54-46 Was My Number" became anthems of the genre. Years ago when I was introduced to Toots on stage at our

venue, the Adams Ave Theater, I called him the "otis redding" of Reggae and he was so blown out that he asked me to reintroduce him so that I would repeat it again.

For more tickets and more information visit tributetothelegends.com or call 619-230-1190.

WorldBeat Cultural Center Presents
Bob Day
Tribute to the Reggae Legends
Saturday, February 22nd
SISTER NANCY JOHNNY OSBOURNE
WARRIOR KING ETANA TRISTON PALMER
JUNIOR TOOTS (Tribute to Toots) LITTLE JOHN
EMPRESS ARUA + QUINTO SOL + REVIVAL + MARA SULU
Friday, February 21st
Virgin Islands Meets Jamaica on Sound System
DEZARIE NINJAH P MICHAEL PALMER RANKING JOE
Balboa Park, San Diego RAS INDIO
 WorldBeat Cultural Center 2100 Park Blvd., 92101
 For tickets and more information : tributetothelegends.com | 619-230-1190

This celebration was a true testament to the power of community, as people gathered to honor Dr. King's legacy and embrace the philosophy of Ubuntu. Together, we reaffirm our commitment to Dr.

King's dream of a world where justice, peace, and love are accessible to all. Thank



you to everyone who joined us in this unforgettable day of music, dance, and reflection.

Acts of Clemency Granted for Political Prisoners

by Makeda Cheatom and Berenice Rodriguez

Throughout history, political prisoners have played a pivotal role in advancing social justice movements, often at great personal cost. The imprisonment of these individuals highlights the intersection of state power and activism, revealing the harsh realities of injustice within systems that oppose political dissent. Many of these prisoners were often imprisoned not for crimes, but for their political beliefs and efforts to confront systemic issues such as racial inequality, colonialism, and the rights of Indigenous peoples.

Today, the granting of clemency by the Biden administration to notable figures such as Marcus Garvey and Leonard Peltier marks a long-overdue recognition of the injustices these individuals faced and their contributions to the social justice cause. These acts of clemency highlight the importance of reflecting on historical wrongs, bringing overdue justice to those who fought for equality and human rights. It was thanks to congressional leaders, activists and lawmakers that these pardons were made.

Marcus Garvey and His Legacy

Marcus Garvey, a powerful advocate for the rights and empowerment of Black people, was convicted in 1923 on charges of mail fraud related to his leadership in the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). The movement, founded by Garvey, aimed to promote racial pride, economic independence, and the establishment of a Black homeland in Africa through the Black Star Line. Although his conviction is widely considered unjust, Garvey's impact on Black civil rights is undeniable. He inspired generations of Black activists, including leaders such as Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr., and laid the foundation for later movements like Black Power and Pan-Africanism.

Garvey's pardon acknowledges the systemic racism that led to his conviction and recognizes the lasting influence of his vision for global Black unity. His work continues to resonate in the fight for social justice today, making his pardon a symbolic and meaningful act of healing.

Leonard Peltier and the Struggle at Wounded Knee

Leonard Peltier, member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, has been in federal prison since his conviction for the murder of two FBI agents in 1975 during a shootout on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwest South Dakota. He is an Indigenous activist and member of the American Indian Movement (AIM), was convicted in 1977 for the deaths of two FBI agents during a confrontation at the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Peltier's case remains controversial, with many claiming that his conviction was based on a flawed trial, inadequate defense, and racial prejudice. His imprisonment is seen by many as an example of the injustice faced by Indigenous activists who challenge government policies and advocate for Native American rights.

The Wounded Knee incident, which occurred in 1890, holds significant historical importance for Native American resistance.

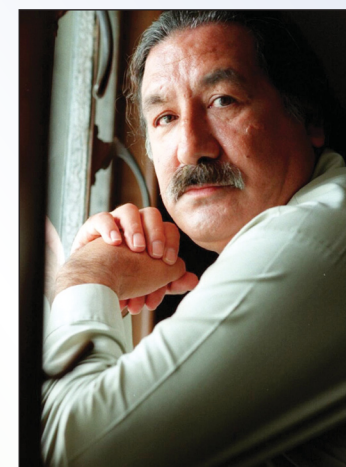


Makeda Dread with Dr. Julius Garvey, son of Marcus Garvey

It marked a standoff between AIM activists and federal authorities, highlighting the struggles faced by Indigenous communities in their fight for sovereignty and justice. Peltier's continued imprisonment, despite the lack of conclusive evidence, is a symbol of the ongoing marginalization of Native Americans within the U.S. legal system. Several years ago, I had the honor of interviewing Dennis Banks, a key leader in AIM and we spoke on Leonard Peltier, the Black Panthers and the AIM movement. We produced a short documentary narrated by the interview. I encourage you to listen to Dennis Banks as he explains what happened at Pine Ridge. It was an honor to spend time with Dennis Banks.

More Work to Be Done

In honoring these individuals and bringing justice to their cases, the nation takes a step closer to healing and confronting the legacies of injustice that continue to shape our social and political landscape. As we recognize the injustices faced by figures like Garvey and Peltier, we must also continue to advocate for the freedom of Assata Shakur, Mumia Abu-Jamal and Pete O'Neal.



Leonard Peltier (born September 12, 1944) Scheduled to be released February 18, 2025.

inadequate defense, and a biased judicial system. His conviction and subsequent death sentence have been the subject of years of legal battles and widespread protests, drawing attention to issues of racial injustice and police violence.

These cases reflect the broader history of political imprisonment as a tool used by governments to suppress social justice movements, particularly those that challenge racial and ethnic hierarchies.

Caribbean Vegan Soul Food
Open Friday-Sunday 11am - 5pm
 2100 Park Blvd., San Diego | 619-230-1190

Zucchini and Chickpea Sauté

by Twintastic Treats

- Ingredients:
- 1 cup of chopped onion
 - 1 cup of chopped red bell pepper
 - 6 cloves of garlic, minced
 - 1 tsp of dried oregano
 - 1 tsp of fried thyme
 - 3 medium zucchini, halved lengthwise and cut into 1/4 inch slices (4 cups)
 - 1 15-oz can of chickpeas, rinsed and drained (1 1/2 cups)
 - 1 cup oil-free marinara sauce
 - 1 tbsp vinegar
 - Sea salt and black pepper to taste
 - 8-10 fresh basil leaves, chopped

- Instructions:
- Heat an extra large skillet or wok over medium heat. Add the first 5 ingredients. Cook for 10 minutes, stirring often and adding water, 1 to 2 tbsp at a time, as needed to prevent sticking.
 - Add zucchini ; cook 10 minutes or more or until the zucchini is tender. Stir in chickpeas, marinara sauce, and vinegar. Season with Salt and black pepper. Heat through. Garnish with basil and serve.

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Reggae Makossa
 Online Link
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Giving Back to the Community

by Julie La Brake

Nathan LaBrake is part of the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation. He has a growing family of three beautiful children and a very supportive wife. He organizes quarterly events for the Native communities of San Diego County. For the past two years, Nathan, with the support of family members, has sponsored some fascinating events.

The first event is a spring activity day. It features team relay races, including a tule boat race at Sycuan Lake. The second event is the Fun Run, which is conducted in collaboration with Rez Runner. Third, at the Sycuan Tribal Hall, a backpack drive is held for children to receive backpacks filled with basic school supplies to aid in a successful school year. Free haircuts are also available. And fourth is the toy giveaway. Some families find the holiday season financially challenging. Leading up to Christmas, Nathan runs a toy drive and

invites all the local communities, both on reservations and off reservations, to the toy drive. Here, families can grab gifts for their children, meet Santa, and have dinner.

“These four events that I have started were with Native communities in mind, giving them an event where they can just have fun and hopefully share with our youth and young adults that anything is possible, and all it takes is an idea. My purpose for these events was to give our youth something to look forward to. It’s given our tribe fun ways to give back to our surrounding communities,” Nathan



LaBrake said.

For more information, follow Nathan LaBrake’s Instagram @syclifeontherez Be the change.

Stop the Hate

Continued from page 7

evolve, the lessons we learn about bigotry, hatred, racism, bullying, and prejudice are no longer wanted. I remember saying to some of the few remaining local hard line exclusive Chicano residents that “no one wants to make their Mothers cry” because of hate crimes. I believe that most residents really feel the same way. The beautiful culture of Mexico and her people is undeniable and is respected, admired and enjoyed by so many throughout California and other places, even abroad! But the presence of our original inhabitants, caretakers of our earth, should be celebrated as well. The ancestors lived here long before they lost their lands to others, but the culture of Mother Nature was and remains on their side and as a benefit to all humanity, which we are all beginning to see. Modern technology, pharmaceuticals, and so much more have a long way to go without the use of chemicals and polluted air caused by human neglect and greed to keep our earth safe.

For me, “Stop the Hate” is also a

reminder of what our dear Mother Earth must be feeling when we remain on the path of destruction of fauna and flora and our oceans and seaways. Is it her voice that comes with the quaking earth and the stormy seas, hurricanes, tornadoes, lack of rain, disappearing forests and trees, polluted water and maiming and killing of human life?

For this, Indian Voices support will, at least, leave such messages to think about and, perhaps, just maybe perhaps, we will begin to listen to the cries and deterioration of our habitat and return to the ways when Mother Nature was the sacred way of life and a time when people worked together to conserve and share and be kind to one another, showing respect to all, to our elders, to our children who live their lives in a world that is so incredibly beautiful as portrayed through the four directions imprinted on the Indigenous “Stop the Hate” gazebo. (Photos to follow)

My thoughts to share for all and wishes to not only residents of Eastside but all of Oceanside and beyond. Happy New Year and May Peace Prevail on Earth!

Freethinkers are those who are willing to use their minds without prejudice and without fearing to understand things that clash with their own customs, privileges, or beliefs. This state of mind is not common, but it is essential for right thinking.

– Leo Tolstoy

NETWORKING



VETERAN NEWS OUTREACH

In collaboration with Jerry Ashton

Q&A: End Veteran Debt (EVD), a 501(c)(3) Private Non-profit Charitable Foundation

Where and When did EVD start?

End Veteran Debt (EVD) was founded by Navy Veteran Jerry Ashton in New York City in October 2023 to end veteran debt and reduce veteran suicide.

The End Veteran Debt two-fold strategy – Think Globally and Act Locally.

EVD’s work is national in scope and local in implementation. In “Operation Debt-Day” campaigns, EVD partners with veteran charities, philanthropists, and NGOs to raise \$50,000. These funds are used to (nationally) buy and eliminate \$1,000,000 in unpaid veteran debt and (locally) to address immediate economic burdens.

By eliminating past burdens and providing lifesaving funds to handle a here-and-now financial crisis, this partnership addresses and is a solution to debt as a proven social determinant of suicidal ideation and the irrevocable act itself.

A Past-Present-Future Antidote

This co-fundraising approach uniquely serves veterans and their families in their financial struggles. Such as (1) relieving

burdensome past debt and negative credit marks, (2) helping local charities pay current rent or mortgage bills and stave off homelessness or putting tires on a car or food on the table, and (3) developing and delivering webinars on financial literacy to educate veterans and families from getting into (or getting out of) future financial snares.

“If they don’t know about you, they can’t do anything about you”

Jerry Ashton tapped into his roots as a Navy journalist (E-5) and experience as a highly respected charity founder to solve the reality that faces every organization: no matter how valuable your service or solution, that mission cannot be successful if the public is unaware of you and your value.

Now Hear This is a one-of-its-kind veteran-staffed media central serving campaigners, their donors, and supporters as a pathway to media attention and creating a press kit. By tapping into a national pool of former media specialists, reporters, and broadcasters through Military Veterans in Journalism (spread locally and nationally.

Operation Debt-Day and the Native American Community

Will \$1M in veteran debt abolished across the U.S. make a difference for native warriors at home or on the Rez?

by Meta Mereday

My organization, End Veteran Debt (EVD), has launched a campaign called Operation Debt-Day, and we believe that Indigenous military Veterans and their families are essential in their inclusion.

As anyone in Indian Country can tell you, Indigenous peoples benefit from shared identities and cultural traditions too often diminished by others. That carries over into the military experience.

Despite these obstacles, Native Americans have proven to be as committed to serving our country as any other group. According to the Library of Congress, Native Americans have served in combat at a higher rate per capita than any other ethnic group. High among the reasons for this achievement are the values that Native Americans and Indigenous

people place on patriotism and a duty to country coupled with the warrior tradition within their own communities.

So far, so good. What’s the problem? Despite congressional chest-pounding, the Native American veteran

community continues to face extreme hardships due to a lack of follow-through in delivering promised benefits, both economic and medical. This militates heavily against veterans successfully transitioning back to civilian life.

It is well known that native American veterans (and their people) face higher rates of diabetes, depression, and substance abuse disorder, leading to unemployment and an increased risk of homelessness due to significant debt in all its forms.

Where am I going with this? These are “social determinant” warning signs, leading to suicidal ideation and the irrevocable, horrible act itself that needs to be addressed.



SEE Operation Debt-Day, page 15

~ On the Town with Camille ~

by Camille Appling

San Diego's Downtown Fellowship

This year, the Downtown Fellowship, led by Ben Montoya and located at the First Presbyterian Church on Date Street, was filled with the promise of the new year as it continued to pursue excellence for our community. The Downtown Fellowship is working diligently to serve and assist San Diego's homeless population. This year, we will be continuing to work with ministerial leads like Chris Sandoval of the Servant Church as we organize the Day of Prayer 2025. We will also be working with Circles, led by Russ Lenk. This organization helps the homeless with various life repair programs. We are also working with SDSU's Alpha Gamma Omega, which helps people in need with the PATH program. Downtown Fellowship's consistent service has helped me and many others through difficult times. If you are homeless, disabled, a veteran, a human or an animal and need help, check us out at sdfellowship.com

Legacy Center 2025

The Legacy Center of San Diego welcomed 2025 with real ministry that serves our community. We began with the Legacy Center's breakfast on January 11, 2025. Closely followed by the breakfast was the Morris Cerullo World Conference, which took place from January 16-19, 2025, at 875 Hotel Circle South. The Legacy Center is filled with restaurants, spas, libraries, movie theaters, and

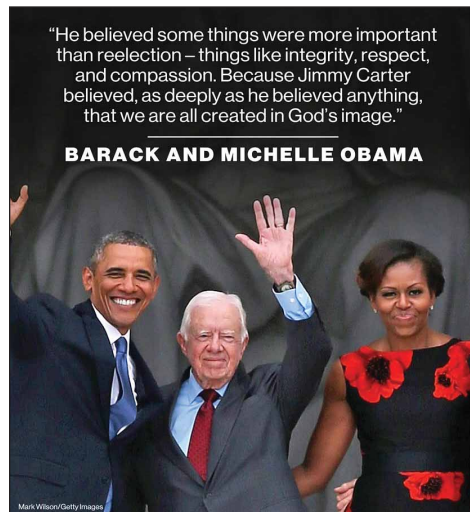


museums and welcomes people from all over the world to worship. There is even a replica of the Jerusalem Western Wall for Prayer where you can leave your prayers on the wall. Join us in celebrating the ministerial legacy of Morris and Theresa Cerullo. If you're looking for a place to praise the Lord, check us out at legacyresortandspa.com

EBAC Executive Board Accountability We Are The World 2025

On Monday, December 30, 2024, we had the pleasure of speaking with the EBAC organization about their mission to improve children's safety, housing, education, employment, and nutrition. The scholarly group included Dr. Truthbey and representatives from all over the world, including, Haiti, Kenya, New York, California, and many more that

continue boldly with the original "We Are the World" ideals. Ethiopia, Ohio, Louisiana, and Baltimore, as well as Virginia, Louisiana and South Carolina were also in attendance and in agreement. EBAC's goal is to support youth with safety and education. The organization has also partnered with TAKE BACK OUR CHILDREN, Ghetto Radio KE, Aketch (KENYA), Music for the Culture, and countless other organizations placing children as the priority. Their international feel makes it possible to reach out with different angles to support their precious lives with experienced caring



professionals. They have also worked with different organizations to remake the classic "We Are the World" in different versions to keep the strong sentiment of care for basic human rights as we fight for our children. The presentation really inspired me when I saw how much the international community wants rights and safety for American and International children. I'm hoping that they will be able to do a remake of "We Are the World" soon. In the meantime, we hope to continue our mission to improve humanity.

Mana de San Diego Holiday Soiree 2024

This year, Mana de San Diego held a holiday soiree that included some San Diegan women who support humanitarianism, women's rights, and education. The event was hosted by Dr.



Ynez Perezchica and the Mana Support Staff. Their goal was to bring attention to the Latino influences that are helping with these pertinent issues to improve young women's livelihood. The event was filled by a beautiful array of appetizers and drinks in the splendid Liberty Station Area. Guests included city attorney Maura Elliot, who shared about

her upbringing and the trials and triumphs of her positioning. She motivated the hermanitas and their moms to strive for success. Judge Rachel Cano and many other guests attended in support of MANA. Presidents Claudia Rempel and Venus Molina shared about MANA from its inception. Their organization has raised huge amounts of money to support countless projects like Hermanitas, Mana Legacy Luncheon, and Stem Activities. Their tireless, hard work has produced college graduates, future doctors and lawyers, and future leadership. Please checkout the new programs at manasd.org

Snow Day in the Barrio 2024

This year, All for Logan held a Christmas event for San Diego's children. The snow day was filled with fun and laughter for the participating families. Children got to meet Santa. They also

enjoyed presents, delicious pastries, Christmas music, and a huge pile of snow. The All for Logan organization has worked tirelessly to bring culture and art to the Barrio Logan community. The organization is greatly appreciated for its diligence in care and education. We are ecstatic about its



accomplishments as it supports our cultural conscious because that makes us who we are. Salute, All for Logan! Allforlogan.com

Elmer Bisarra's Networking News



The Great Law of Peace

As outpouring of community support, camaraderie and positive Kumeyaay spirit continues to grow and evolve from the heart of the Native community.

Always attracted the bountiful good food from the pot luck affair the group met once again at the Mental Health Clinic, 4069 30th St.

Elders renewed acquaintance and greeted the younger ones dedicated to learning and carrying on traditions.

It was good medicine to see old friends, make new friends and come together in Unity. Chuck Cadotte, Mary Oyous, Marsha Spirit Bear Woman and the entire group was a joyful sight for sore eyes.



NEWS

from Las Vegas/Nevada

Kena Adams, Coordinator Las Vegas/Nevada

Combining Technology and Tradition to Transform Indigenous/Indian Health

The resourceful and caring team at Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center (RSTHC) has been leveraging technology from NextGen Healthcare (NextGen) to deliver quality care to the American Indians in their community. Now, with the recent CMS announcement, they will be able to add traditional medicine. And it wouldn't be possible without Angie Wilson, Tribal Health Director at RSTHC.



Key takeaways

EHR is the central nervous system. RSTHC uses NextGen's EHR system to streamline operations, improve patient engagement, and reduce clinician burnout. It is their "central nervous system".

Addition of traditional medicine will improve care. Adding culturally appropriate care will encourage more people to seek care from the community. It will also give patients more choice in the care they receive.

NextGen helped with emergency preparedness. Because the NextGen EHR held up-to-date patient contact information, during a recent wildfire, RSTHC was able to quickly identify and assist hundreds of evacuated patients.

At the heart of RSTHC's operational success is NextGen's electronic health record (EHR) system, which Wilson describes as the "central nervous system".

Since adopting the platform in 2015, RSTHC has utilized tools like population health analytics and AI-powered charting to enhance efficiency and reduce clinician burnout. These advancements have not only improved face-to-face patient interactions but have also led to remarkable operational success including doubling clinic revenue in just two years through a combination of optimized workflows and proactive patient engagement.

"The population health capability is phenomenal," said Wilson. "It gives me all the tools that I need as a tribal health administrator to look at the decisions I make and how to drive the clinic forward. I can see how my decisions will impact revenue, pre-visit planning, and preventative patient outreach. Population health

Inclusion of Traditional Medicine is Transformative

The recent CMS approval of traditional medicine in four states, including

neighboring California and Oregon, marks a transformative moment for Indigenous communities.

"It is a very exciting time for us here in the United States and Indian country," stated Wilson. "I sit on the CMS Tribal Technical Advisory Group, and I can tell you this is a groundbreaking and historic time. We will be able to incorporate cultural values and practices in traditional ways into the primary care practice."

Combining Western with Traditional medicine could break down barriers to care by fostering trust and encouraging more individuals to seek medical attention.

"It's about giving patients healthcare that aligns with their cultural values," Wilson added.

Innovative Use of NextGen EHR During a Wildfire

RSTHC's innovative use of technology had an unexpected benefit. During recent wildfires, population health analytics enabled the center to identify and reach out to over 200 evacuated patients in minutes. This capability not only ensured continuity of care during a crisis but also reinforced trust within the community.

"The beautiful thing was that NextGen's population health analytics solution has geospatial data," explained Wilson. "We were able to plug in the zip codes and were able to get a patient list of everybody that was evacuated. It took seconds. Being able to do targeted outreach to them in an emergency situation was phenomenal."

According to Wilson, even the Nevada State Emergency Service was impressed.

"We are proud of this system," said Wilson. "I am really proud of the work that we have put in to showcase it and have it be what we need it to be to meet our overall goals in the community."

Learn more about Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center at <https://www.rstic.org/186/Health-Center>
Learn more about NextGen at <https://www.nextgen.com/>

The Legacy of the Leather Patch; Black Motorcycle History Being Made (1990-2025)



Black motorcycle history is being made, once again, within this vast culture. Rainbow and Sunshine handmade 100s of leather patches a year for several different MCs throughout the country.

Rainbow (aka Odis) is a retired member of the LA Deuces MC. Rainbow was born in Chicago and grew up in LA. His close ties within the MC culture allowed him this opportunity. His wife Sunshine (aka Dorothy), a retired LA Deuce MC, was born in Mississippi and also grew up in Los Angeles.

"I remember the first patch I made was a Brothers of the Sun patch for Compton," stated Sunshine. You can tell she takes real pride in what she does.

Rainbow and Sunshine recently moved to Alabama to assist Sunshine's aging mother as she dealt with health problems. Even in Alabama, this dream team continues to make several different

patches for many clubs. They both agree when it comes to witnessing the positive impact this culture has had and is still having on many inner-city communities.

With the older members leaving, we are now left with the next generation of members. Rainbow reminds our younger generation, "Don't believe the hype. This set needs to be about UNITY. We have to educate the younger members and each other." Sunshine is retired but still brings women together with the creation of two different social clubs, Bad Girls SC (out of Nevada and Arizona) and Sisters SC (out of Alabama). Rainbow and Sunshine constantly contribute to making this culture better each day with all that they do to ensure its continuation.

"Respect yourself. Don't throw yourself out there in peculiar situations. This is the type of behavior that starts unnecessary drama," stated Sunshine.

The level of discipline within these MC clubs is what has kept them alive for 100-plus years. Discipline, respect, and unity will be the mission for the next 100 years within this exciting culture!

Marble Manor Residents Face Eviction

LAS VEGAS (KLAS) – Marble Manor has been a part of the Historic Westside for over 70 years, and starting this year, its residents will begin the moving process as redevelopment plans will soon become a reality.

The Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority and Brinshore Development Group want to build a mixed-use development on nearly 36 acres of land at the corner of McWilliams

Avenue and H Street.

Phase one of the project would include 138 residential units with 4,500 square feet of commercial and community space. While property redevelopment is needed some residents feel as if there's been a lack of communication from the start regarding the moving process. Even though developers shared that they've canvassed the neighborhood several times prior to now.

LA 211 has paired up with Airbnb, and anyone who has been evacuated because of the Palisades fire can stay in an Airbnb for one week at no charge. Just dial 2-1-1 or visit www.211LA.org

MOAPA'S 1st Flea MARKET
Handmade crafts food baked goods jewelry other new found gems

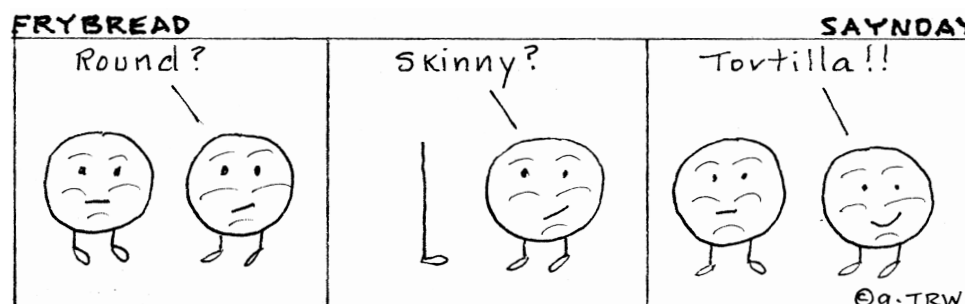
Come celebrate the New Year with family, friends and new found treasures

Saturday January 25 9am - 3pm

Vendor Info: Candice 702.688.9218 Dakota 970.697.7039

Flea Market Jungle

HELD IN FRONT OF TRAVEL PLAZA



CATHERINE'S CORNER



Cortez Masto Statement on the Certification of the 2024 Election Results, Anniversary of January 6th Insurrection

Washington, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) joined the Congressional certification of the election of Donald Trump as the 47th President of the United States. She released the following statement highlighting the importance of the peaceful transfer of power and recognizing the fourth anniversary of January 6, 2021.

“The peaceful transfer of power is the cornerstone of our democracy. Today, I attended the certification of the 2024 election as part of our sacred commitment to the Constitution,” said Senator Cortez

Masto. “Today is also a somber day. I can’t help but remember that on this day four years ago, a very different scene was unfolding in Washington. On January 6, 2021, a violent mob attacked our Capitol, our law enforcement, and our democracy. This anniversary is a reminder that we cannot believe in free and fair elections only when we win. I’ll always be thankful for the brave actions of the Capitol Police who stood up to protect us on that day, and will never forget just how precious our democracy is.”

The Turtle and the Badger

by Rudolph Red Fox MT

My father just bought a house out in the country. My sister told my mother, “They should come to live with us, my grandma and grandpa.”

We were all glad when they came the other day. Grandpa must have gotten up really early because, when I got up, the pick-up was gone.

Before I went to school, I asked Grandma, “Where’s the pickup?”

“Oh, your grandpa drove away! He went to hunt,” she said to me.

It was late afternoon when he returned home. He must have killed a big buck (deer). I helped Grandpa unload it.

When he butchered it, Grandma was right there to cut up the meat that was going to be dried.

My mother started slicing the meat, and my sister helped our mother.

Grandma started to boil the deer meat. She put salt pork and potatoes.

Grandma started making a drying rack, and I went after some dry branches.

My mother used them to stretch the meat.

As I was coming back from far away, I smelled Grandma’s cooking.

My father, when he got home from work, must have smelled the deer that was cooking. He must have tried to sneak into the pot. Grandma was chasing him out. “Go sit under the Arbor. Soon we’ll eat.”

Grandpa said, “Come sit here. Let’s see how many cars will come by before dinner is ready.”

The first to appear, red. Barely, it was making it northward. The second one was yellow, the third one was purple, the fourth one was orange, the fifth one was green, the sixth one was black, the

seventh one was white, the eighth one was brown, and the ninth one was gray.

A blue car came down the hill; it was going really fast. Right where we were, when it got there, it made a big noise. It went off the road.

My father said, “Someone might get hurt. Let me see. I better look.” He ran there to the car, where it was standing.

Grandpa and I followed my father. When we arrived my father said, “It must have just been a flat tire. No one was hurt.”

My father helped the man. They changed the tire. He must have been traveling by; we didn’t know him.

Grandpa and I watched them, and then Grandma called us, “Now come to eat.” Grandpa invited the man to eat. When we finished eating, “Thank you,” he told us. Then, he drove off.

I asked Grandpa, “Why did you invite him? We didn’t know him.”

Then, he told me a story about why he helped that person.

“Every time, when I go hunt deer, I tell the sacred powers, ‘Look at me!’ And the badger helps us find food. I said to the badger, ‘And now meat is ample.’ I killed the deer, I field-dressed it there, I took the liver. Likewise, what I ate tasted really good. He (badger) must be fed when there is a kill. ‘Take it!’ I told him. Long ago, the Sacred Powers told the asa worker (ehose) the badger to pity us. Likewise, this badger reminds us, we are not going to be selfish. If there is selfishness, if there is not respect for one another, if there is no kindness, the badger must turn his back on us. There surely would be no happiness, and everything would be gone.

Submitted by Yvonne Verjan Hawk

Black Lives Matter

by Kamia Gray/Junior Journalist

Today, I’m going to be talking about Black Lives Matter because all lives do matter. I know you have seen the stories about how Black Lives Matter and racism are out of hand. Slavery ended in 1865. Lincoln had announced the Emancipation Proclamation two years earlier (1963), but freedom did not come for most African Americans until the Union’s victory in April of 1865. In December 1865, the 13th Amendment of the Constitution was ratified. Racism should have stopped then, but it didn’t.

There is still segregation and racism going on today. Black people are being killed by police officers. A lot of Black

people are being racially profiled and losing their lives. That’s why I wanted to talk about Black Lives Matter.

Ta’Kiya Young was killed by the police. She was only 21 years old and was pregnant. She not only lost her life but also lost her voice and her right to speak up about how she was killed all because she was Black.

Black Lives Matter was originated for Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi. Of course, not all police officers are bad people. Some officers want to protect our city.

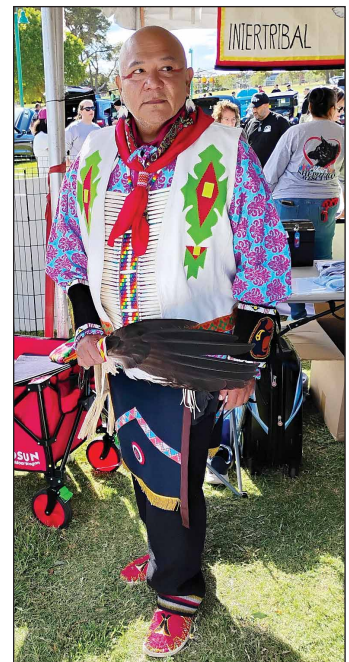
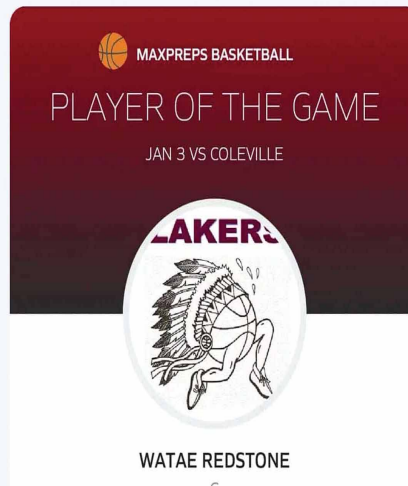
Black Lives Matter just means that Black people’s lives matter too, and they deserve to live too.

My name is Kamia Gray. I am a middle school student, and this is my opinion on Black Lives Matter.

Watae Redstone

Player of the Game
Monday, Jan 6, 2025

Congratulations to **##15 Watae Redstone** for being selected as the **Pyramid Lake** Player player of the game.



This is Edward Box III, Southern Paiute and Southern Cheyenne. Will be headman dancer for the 2025 UNLV POWWOW, Las Vegas, NV



Leonard Peltier latest painting

photo: Las Vegas Native FB

You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man’s freedom. You can only be free if I am free.
– Clarence Darrow

<h1 style="text-align: center;">Enero Zapatista</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">We Teach Life: Towards Different Geographies and Calendars</p>						
<h2 style="color: red;">JANUARY</h2>						
5 Sunday 5:00 pm: Enero Zapatista Art Exhibition Opening Hosted by: Enero Zapatista Art Committee	6 Monday	7 Tuesday	8 Wednesday	9 Thursday 7:00 pm: Enero Zapatista Book Circle Hosted by: Normiga Xicoapatistas	10 Friday 4-7:00 pm: Opening Ceremony of Enero Zapatista Hosted by: Enero Zapatista Coordinating Committee (RSVP BEFORE 12/27/24 TO ATTEND!) 7-8:00 pm: We Tell Our Truths: Indigenous Resistance Through Film Hosted by: Candor Visual Media	11 Saturday 3-4:00 pm: Settler Colonial Land Grabs Teach-In Hosted by: Jewish Voice for Peace San Diego and Tenant Councils of San Diego 6-8:30 pm: We Teach Life Through Theatre Hosted by: Party for Socialism and Liberation
12 Sunday 2-4:00 pm: Plant-based Calendars of Indigenous Spaces in Southern Califos Hosted by: Joe Parker	13 Monday 6:30 pm: La Unión Hace La Fuera: Tenant Unions Striking Back for Housing Justice Hosted by: San Diego Tenant's Union	14 Tuesday	15 Wednesday	16 Thursday 7:00 pm: Enero Zapatista Book Circle Hosted by: Normiga Xicoapatistas	17 Friday 8-8:30 pm: Sexto Grupos del Norte Journal 2 Launch Hosted by: Sexto Grupos del Norte	18 Saturday 12-3:00 pm: Black and Brown Resistance in the Age of Surveillance Hosted by: Pions of the Community 5-7:00 pm: They Call Us Terrorists: Uplifting Resistance from Turtle Island to Palestine Hosted by: Party for Socialism and Liberation
19 Sunday 9:30-10:00 am: 6th Annual Resistance Ride: To the Che Café 10:00 am-3:00 pm: Resistance Ride Food and Discussion Before a Ride Back to Old Town Hosted by: Bikas Del Pueblo & Che Café	20 Monday 6:30-8:00 pm: Navigating Fractured Realities and the Need for Clean Air ("During the Pandemic" is right now) Hosted by: Fun Favorite	21 Tuesday 6:00 pm: Writing Letters Across Prison Walls Hosted by: Sor Nona - San Diego	22 Wednesday 6:00 pm: We're All We Need: Abolition in the Borderlands Hosted by: Detention Resistance Collective	23 Thursday 6:00 pm: We're All We Need: Abolition in the Borderlands Hosted by: Detention Resistance Collective	24 Friday 1-3:00 pm: Revitalización de la Lengua Kumial on B.C. Hosted by: Karina Nolasco, Humberto and Wilhelmina Colón 7:00 pm: Tercera reunión para indígenas e indígenas, rights and resources for workers and women Hosted by: Tercera Reunión	25 Saturday 4-6:00 pm: Militarized Geographies in San Diego: Young People's Resistance to War and Schooling Film Screening Hosted by: Project YAC, Homegrown Youth Collaborative, Veterans for Peace, and Secret City (Evan Apodaca)
26 Sunday 11:00 am-1:00 pm: Aniversario de Los 43 Estudiantes Hosted by: Amadillos	27 Monday	28 Tuesday	29 Wednesday	30 Thursday 7:00 pm: Enero Zapatista Book Circle Hosted by: Normiga Xicoapatistas	31 Friday 6-9 pm: Sauma - (The Gathering) Hosted by: The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)	1 Saturday 5-8:00 pm: Working Women United: From Mexico Hosted by: Half the Sky
2 Sunday 8:30 am-1:00 pm: Aniversario de Los 43 Estudiantes 11:00 am-4:00 pm: La Tercera y el Sol en Nuestras Geografías: Conexiones Entre Territorios Kumial (Julio 17/2007) y Chiapas Hosted by: La Etkino	3 Monday	4 Tuesday	5 Wednesday	6 Thursday 7:00 pm: Enero Zapatista Book Circle Hosted by: Normiga Xicoapatistas	7 Friday 6-9 pm: Sauma - (The Gathering) Hosted by: The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)	8 Saturday 9:30am-12:30pm: Break Down Borders 3K Hosted by: Colectivo Zapatista, Half the Sky, & PYM 6:00 pm: Mayan Fire Ceremony Hosted by: Yuhul O'Chen - Fertiliza del Corazón

In 2025, Put Aside Turmoil And Enjoy Simple Things

by Donna Frye

I was thinking about the coming new year and feeling overwhelmed by the bad stuff going on in the world. If only I had a magic wand to fix some of what ails us, I would be waving it all over the place like a whirling dervish. But I don't, so all I could do was fret and worry about things I couldn't do much about anyway.

I thought some music would help so I turned on San Diego's Jazz 88.3. The Saturday show "Sing! Sing! Sing!" was being hosted by the esteemed jazz writer and author Will Friedwald. He was playing classic Frank Sinatra songs and I liked them all. But the one that magically cheered up my heart was "High Hopes," not just because of the lyrics but because it reminded me of my parents who always played music in the house and loved Sinatra.

The next day while I was out walking, I found a postcard on the ground from Niland, California, with a picture of Salvation Mountain. It turns out the mountain was the inspirational work of Leonard Knight, a Korean War veteran who began constructing it "to get people to go back to a time when they had the capacity to be awestruck and instill in them a sense of wonder."

When I got home, I sat down to read one of the many Sunday newspapers that I subscribe to and in the Los Angeles Times was a full-page article titled, "Salvation Mountain Keeps The Magic Alive." The story was about how friends were coming together to save the partially collapsing sculpture in memory of Knight.

Just then I heard my husband, Skip,



laughing and wondered what was so funny. I should have known he was reading Nick Canepa's entertaining sports column in The San Diego Union-Tribune

because it almost always makes him laugh out loud. Canepa is the St. Nick of all things sports and more. Skip sometimes reads parts of his column aloud to me, especially the stuff about City Hall politicians. Canepa is a class act who says what's on his mind without being vulgar.

Later in the day, one of our wild black phoebes flew near the back door and sang to remind us it had been over an hour since we last fed him. I got the cup of live mealworms and took some out to him. He sat patiently on the back of a patio chair as I launched one into the air. He flew up and caught it in his beak and then landed back on the chair. We did this dance about five more times before he flew to the fence and waited for me to put some worms on the ground so he could eat at a more leisurely pace.

He was joined by baby bluebirds, sparrows, a towhee, wrens and warblers. A resident blue belly lizard momentarily jumped into the impromptu Birdland worm fest. It's always a wonderment to see the birds and lizards eating worms together.

This weekend reminded me of some of the simple and good things in life such as family, music, reading, walking, laughing, sports, art, nature and especially mountain building and worm eating.

I will try to keep my hopes high for a blessed and peaceful New Year full of "miracles and wonder" for us all.

Frye, a former San Diego City Council member, lives in Clairemont.

Boarding School Report

Continued from page 4

between the U.S. and Indian Tribes that explicitly include the Federal Indian boarding school system were listed in the final report. Also noted is the fact that the U.S. government entered into at least 59 public-private relationships with religious institutions and organizations to advance the systematically abusive and often deadly boarding school system.

A 12-stop 'Road to Healing' listening session tour was organized by the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative. At each stop, former boarding school attendees and their family members gave personal accounts of the trauma they faced and continue to endure. Unicorn Riot covered three of those listening sessions (more below.)

The final investigation noted that the U.S. government "should fully account" for the nearly two-century boarding school system "and renounce the forced assimilation of Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Villages, and the Native Hawaiian Community."

The report gave eight recommendations to "aid the process of collective and individual healing from the harm and violence caused by the assimilation policy," they're listed below:

1. Acknowledge, Apologize, Repudiate, and Affirm
2. Invest in Remedies to the Present-Day Impacts of the Federal Indian Boarding School System — Individual and Community Healing, Family Preservation and Reunification, Violence Prevention, Redress Indian Education, and Revitalization of First American Languages
3. Build a National Memorial
4. Identify and Repatriate Children who Never Returned from Federal Indian

Boarding Schools

5. Return Former Federal Indian Boarding School Sites
 6. Tell the Story of Federal Indian Boarding Schools
 7. Invest in Further Research
 8. Advance International Relationships
- The full list of the 12 areas visited are as follows:

- Riverside Indian School, Oklahoma (7/9/2022)
- Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan (8/13/2022)
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe, South Dakota (10/15/2022)
- Gila River Indian Community, Arizona (1/20/2023)
- Navajo Nation, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah (1/22/2023)
- Tulalip Indian Tribes, Washington (4/23/2023)
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Minnesota (6/3/2023)
- Sherman Indian High School, Southern California (8/4/2023)
- Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, Northern California (8/6/2023)
- Alaska Native Heritage Center, Alaska (10/22/2023)
- Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico (10/29/2023)
- Montana State University, Montana (11/5/2023)

Minneapolis based Native American Boarding Schools Healing Coalition attended the Minnesota listening session in June 2023.

"It is so brave of survivors and family members to come forward and share this truth," said NABS CEO Deborah Parker. "And the stories are painful and the U.S. Government and churches made sure that it was painful. They made sure that students were ashamed of who they were so they would remain silent."

Gen Min
Chinese Acupuncture & Herb Center

Annie Yongmei Pan
L,AC. & Chinese Herbalist

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Gwendolyn Parada
Chairwoman

LA POSTA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

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Artists at Work

by April Nurse

Beginner lapidary classes are designed to teach skills the way the teachers want them repeated. Intermediate and advanced classes teach the instructors how the artist sees their world. The advanced classes take away a lot of the restraint of the beginning classes and give freedom, allowing artists to dream up new projects. Most of our students are artists in other mediums. In our last intermediate class, we had a cosplay designer, a jeweler specializing in bone and metal, a bead worker, a sound and frequency technician, a painter, and more—all in one class.

To the cosplay design artist, each piece is part of a larger world, and as such, all her work was incredibly precise and simple. Everything could then fit seamlessly in the environment she created for it. I've never seen such perfect geometric designs. She built characters; their jewelry was more than just pretty rocks but a representation of them as a whole. She laid her stones and metals out like an interior designer making notes and drawings to keep herself on track.

The bead worker took the longest to get things finished, but every single detail was studied and considered before she decided on anything. She could cut the most intricate patterns into tiny pieces of metal with just a blunt saw and a lot of time and patience. She was a theme enthusiast, so everything from the hand-beaded cord to the painstakingly selected clasps paid homage to her chosen themes.

The metal artist had the most unique eye for texture. Everything from setting to hook was a part of the texture story of each piece. It was not uncommon for her to spend hours with a hammer, making perfect indentations. The metal was always the star of each piece. Her gorgeous stones and bits of bone were colorful accents to her true love.

The sound and frequency tech was so different from the rest. She made many

beautiful polished stones but only managed to set a couple. Every finished piece began with a feeling. If she wasn't feeling the vibe, it went back into the toolbox. She spent days plotting and cutting a 3" x 3" piece of purple Yttrium, (a soft soothing stripped purple fluorite) just for two 6 MM round button stud earrings. They had to be perfectly synced before she felt good about proceeding. They were stunning.

The painter was probably the most bizarre to me because she spent week after week doing almost nothing. She'd choose a piece of grit to polish and then toss it back into her toolbox. Then she'd pick up a work in progress piece and futz over it a little more. It went on like this most of the class until, one day, inspiration struck. A beautiful carved, polished, and set pendant appeared from the void in no time at all. I marveled at the speed in which it came to be. Her only focus was its imperfections. Absolutely the most unique and creative artist I've ever seen.

I love watching art birthed. It's a pleasure and a privilege to give it space to breathe and become. We've had photographers, ceramic artists, leather artists, metalsmiths, glass blowers, chefs, surgeons, and more come through our doors and lend their artistry to this lapidary work. I love watching their unique points of view inspire new and beautiful creations. I love seeing their other art forms become more nuanced and special because of the work they do with lapidary. With art, there are only winners. Not only do we gain from growing our skills, but the class learns from the unique perspective of each participant. As this year winds down, I would like to say how grateful I am to each student I had the pleasure of working with and guiding. Thank you for teaching me too.

enough to have common goals and kindness. If you're one of the millions feeling the sting of loneliness, find something to volunteer for. Find a cause that feeds your fire. Odds are there are folks there who share your passion. Life's too short to seek perfection; instead, seek authenticity. Seek people who are themselves wholeheartedly and who encourage you to be your most true self, even if you aren't anything like them. We don't need to be alone; we just need to be kind and a little patient.

Community

Continued from page 1

I'd found a community. Not exactly best friends but still people I care about. People with stories and worries and families they carry in every step. I don't shut them out at comments that don't align with my values. I don't want to. I learn, I listen, and I grow with every gathering, and they hold space to do the same. I feel seen and heard.

Community can be cultivated anywhere. Community doesn't have to be people who think and act like us. It's

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

– Coretta Scott King



visit: IndigenousNetwork.org

Remembering Michael Henra Norris 1947-2024

Michael Henra Norris was born on March 23rd, 1947, in San Diego, California, to John Wesley Norris and Mary Lee Williams-Wright. Mary Lee Wright married Charles Wright, who raised him. Mike often said, "Johnny is my father, but Charlie was my daddy."

Mike attended Logan Elementary, Memorial Junior High, and Gompers School in San Diego. He graduated from Snyder Continuation High School and later attended

Laney College, majoring in photography.

A lifelong learner, Mike read daily and

pursued various artistic endeavors. He was a poet, writer, artist, sculptor, jewelry designer, and master photographer for over 50 years. As a photojournalist, he worked as the lead photographer for publications such as the Portland Scanner, The Oregonian Newspaper, Voice & Viewpoint, and his very own Imageseed Photography.

On November 27, 2024, Mike went home to be with the Lord. He leaves behind a large loving family of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends.

Enforcement of New 'Daylighting' Law Begins Jan. 1 in City of San Diego

State law aims to protect pedestrians in intersections

SAN DIEGO – As the new year is set to begin, new laws are going into effect in the City of San Diego. One that all drivers need to be aware of is the statewide "daylighting" law, which is meant to protect people crossing intersections by prohibiting parking within 20 feet of the corner, creating more visibility and improving safety.

This law, passed by the California state legislature as Assembly Bill 413, pertains to all intersections throughout the City of San Diego and the state. As of Jan. 1, 2025, vehicle parking will not be allowed within 20 feet of any marked or unmarked crosswalk. This rule applies whether or not there is a red curb or no parking signage at the intersection.

The purpose is to improve the range of vision of approaching drivers, so they are more likely to see pedestrians,

skateboarders and others in the intersection – thereby increasing the daylight and visibility for all.

San Diego Police will be handing out warnings to violators of the law for the first 60 days. Beginning March 1, 2025, motorists who park within 20 feet of any crosswalk, marked or unmarked, may be cited. Tickets will cost \$65, plus a state-mandated administrative fee of \$12.50, for a total of \$77.50. This is also the current fine for parking at a red curb in San Diego.

The new law will also help move the City toward its Vision Zero goals. Vision Zero, a concept adopted by many cities worldwide, aims to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and severe injuries for all road users.

Nationwide, 43 states already have daylighting laws, and most prohibit parking within 20 feet of an intersection.

For more information, please view the City's daylighting webpage.

Operation Debt-Day

Continued from page 10

EVD, through its "Operation Debt-End" campaign and in cooperation with tribal entities and charities in a co-fundraising campaign, intends to do something about it.

"By incorporating the narratives from the Native American/Indigenous Peoples perspective into this discussion and welcoming our heritage opens the doors to eliminating the stigmas that hold our people back from seeking help," stated Rose Davis, publisher, Black Rose Communications and Indian Voices. Davis is of African and Seminole heritage.

Providing culturally comprehensive formats that identify specific needs for its clientele is the foundation for End Veteran Debt. With a mission that is focused on "thinking globally and acting locally," End Veteran Debt, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit private foundation, works with a growing number of veteran organizations and community charities to bring attention to the social determinants that contribute to veteran suicide and remove them. But

first, you need to catch America's attention. The unique quality of EVD's dual platform provides the much-needed recognition to the special characteristics of the Native American community and others who have too often felt isolated and under-served in times to need.

"The point is," says Jerry Ashton, founder of EVD, "by helping raise \$50,000 to abolish \$1M in veteran debt nationally while bringing in funds to meet local here-and-now financial challenges, they can be applauded for participating in a truly unique approach."

With full cultural awareness and historical appreciation, EVD aligns with the Native communities to call attention to their long-standing patriotism, duty, and willingness to step up when required.


Bringing greater public awareness to Native veterans' needs can attract the help required to see that this unique community will finally achieve its fair share of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

For more information about End Veteran Debt, check the website www.EndVeteranDebt.org.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025 | 7:30AM - 10:30AM

Special Guests

 "The Other Little Girl on the Bus" Camile Porter	 Author Stacey Johnson-Balistic	
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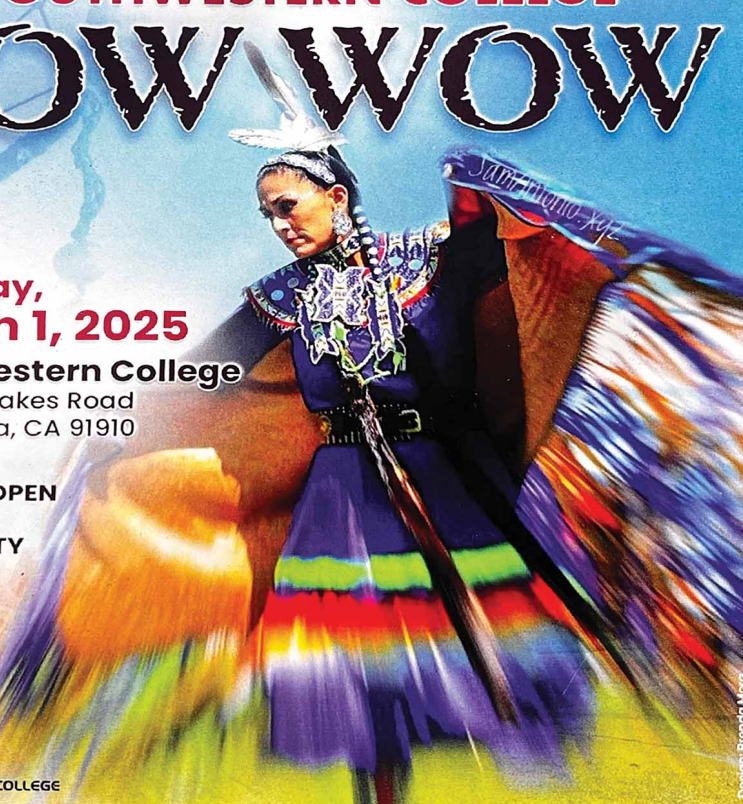
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The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analyzing the potential impacts of the Department's Proposed Action to acquire, through procurement from commercial sources, high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) and to facilitate the establishment of commercial HALEU fuel production (90 FR 3195).

DOE has decided to implement this Proposed Action.

HALEU is a crucial material required by most U.S. advanced reactors to achieve smaller designs, longer operating cycles, and increased efficiencies over current nuclear energy technologies. HALEU is not currently available in sufficient amounts from domestic suppliers. The lack of an adequate domestic, commercial fuel supply could impede both reactor demonstrations and the development of future advanced reactor technologies.

The ROD follows the release of the final HALEU EIS, on October 8, 2024. The final HALEU EIS, prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), provided DOE decision-makers with important information regarding potential environmental impacts of alternatives and options for satisfying the purpose and need.

DOE's decision to implement the Proposed Action is based on consideration of Congressional direction, the need for agency action, the potential environmental impacts (including beneficial impacts related to climate change), as well as other factors, including, public comments, strategic objectives, technology needs, safeguards and security, cost, and schedule.

The ROD and final EIS are available on the project website at <https://www.energy.gov/ne/haleu-environmental-impact-statement>.

