

Journal #2515

from sdc

1.30.12

*New Scholarship Gives Students a 2nd Chance
2012 Scholarship Applications are Posted - Most due by 2/28/2012
Protect My Family From Coal Pollution!
JOIN US FOR THE 1ST NATIVE AMERICAN CHAMBER MIXER
Expert panel recommends new tack on nuclear waste
Obama's Blueprint to Make The Most of America's Energy Resources
Obama's Blueprint for Keeping College Affordable and Within Reach for All Americans
215 gifted students to be given \$875 each to attend program
Ethel Lois Moody Dixon
Norman Joseph Waller "Nummy"*

New Scholarship Gives Students a 2nd Chance.

The Northern Nevada Youth Scholarship is designed for the student who will not qualify for other scholarships based on GPA but demonstrates commitment, passion, and drive. This student has experienced that "AHA moment" and has determined to change his/her life.

The Northern Nevada Youth Scholarship Award will pay up to \$1,000 for certificate programs at private trade schools, Truckee Meadows Community College, and Western Nevada Community College. Applicants are eligible to apply for one additional year of support.

[Learn More and get application link.](#)

2012 Scholarship Applications are Posted - Most due by 2/28/2012.

Parents, Students and Counselors: Scholarship applications for preschool, high school, college, trade school and upper-graduate degrees are posted on the new [Scholarship Match Grid](#) on the nevadafund.org website.

Most Scholarships require completing an online application with supporting documents such as an essay, recommendations or transcripts. Call Tracy or Dani 775-333-5499 for more information.

[Protect My Family From Coal Pollution!](#)

My name is Surita Hernandez and I live on the Moapa Indian Reservation with my husband and five children and the Reid Gardner coal plant is destroying my families' health. The plant is only 500 yards from my backyard and creates a dark cloud that rains dirty coal pollution. **It's making my family sick and it's making us prisoners in our own homes.**

[Fortunately, my family doesn't have to live like this if we can enlist the help of people like you. Will you help?](#)

My entire family has been prescribed inhalers, nebulizers and prescription medications to manage our respiratory conditions -- but when coal ash gets blown by the wind or when smoke from the smoke stacks blow over our house we have to stay indoors.

My 15 year-old daughter gets nose bleeds out of the blue. Her sister gets chronic headaches and has been hospitalized numerous times due to pneumonia. **I fear for the health of my kids and family.**

The Nevada Public Utilities Commission (PUC) can protect my family from coal pollution, save the environment, and create good jobs by shutting down the plant and instead invest in clean energy like wind and solar. This would protect my family from coal pollution, save the environment, and create good jobs.

[Join me and my family and stand up for a clean energy and healthy future. Sign the petition and help us close Reid Gardner today.](#) Together our collective voices can drown out Big Coal and their outdated, inefficient power plant.

Unfortunately, NV Energy is lobbying hard to keep the plant operating full force until 2023. If NV Energy gets their way it will cost members of my family their health, pollute the environment, stall our state's transition to a clean energy economy, and continue to threaten the lives of everyone here in Moapa.

For years members of the Moapa Band of Paiutes Tribe have been fighting to close the plant because of health impacts from coal pollution. We have written letters, held press events, and talked to elected officials but by ourselves it isn't enough.

[Ensure we all have health bodies, a clean environment and thriving economy. Tell the PUC to shut down Reid Gardner by denying NV Energy's request to keep the plant open until 2023.](#)

Sincerely, Surita Hernandez

P.S. After you take action, [forward this message](#) or spread the word on Facebook and Twitter by clicking our handy share buttons below!

JOIN US FOR THE 1ST NATIVE AMERICAN CHAMBER MIXER

***When* Friday, February 10, 2012**

***Time* 5:00pm until 7:00pm**

- *Description*
MEET OLD FRIENDS & MAKE NEW ONES
- And ENJOY THE BEST NAVAJO TACOS In CLARK COUNTY!!
-
- Bring your Brochures, Flyers and Business Cards!! This is a great time to Market your business while networking and enjoying some YUMMO Food.....FOR FREE!!
-
- For more details, Call (702) 329-8642

CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER 3930 CAMBRIDGE STREET , Las Vegas, NV

[View Map](#) · [Get Directions](#)

Expert panel recommends new tack on nuclear waste

By [Steve Tetreault](#) STEPHENS WASHINGTON BUREAU Jan. 26, 2012 | 11:35 a.m.

WASHINGTON -- A blue ribbon panel that examined the nation's sputtering efforts to manage nuclear waste -- including the long conflict over Yucca Mountain -- recommended Thursday that the government use more carrots than sticks to find a burial ground for the deadliest radioactive material.

The high-level commission said nuclear waste sites should be established through partnerships that give states and local communities opportunities to take part in key decisions -- and to walk away if they see fit.

The "consent-based" approach, empowering localities and fueled with generous subsidies and other job-creating benefits, could be the way to overcome "not-in-my-backyard" resistance that has been an obstacle to finding repository hosts, it said.

As delays have mounted so have inventories of spent nuclear fuel at commercial power plants, as well as remnants of the Cold War-era weapons drives that are stored on aging government reservations.

Up to now, the U.S. nuclear waste program has been one of "broken promises and unmet commitments," the commission said.

The United States "must commit to a new, more flexible and more adaptive approach to siting and developing facilities in the future," it said in a 180-page report sent to Energy Secretary Steven Chu.

"Simply put, we know what we have to do, we know we have to do it and we even know how to do it," commissioners said. The problem as always, they said, was finding waste sites and giving residents confidence their health and well-being can be protected.

The 15-member Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, an assembly of government, industry, academic, labor and environmental experts, began meeting in March 2010 to plot new strategies as the Obama administration was bringing to an end the program to develop Yucca Mountain, 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas, into a repository.

The commission recommended a broad overhaul, including removing nuclear waste responsibility from the Department of Energy and placing it in a quasi-government organization that would be dedicated solely to the matter.

It also recommended establishing one or more sites where waste now stored at active and decommissioned reactors could be consolidated.

Under orders from the administration, the commissioners did not render an opinion as to whether the now-suspended Nevada site -- or any other location -- would be suitable as a permanent repository.

But they made clear a view that the decades of conflict surrounding Yucca Mountain has had damaging consequences.

The strategy adopted by Congress in 1987 that essentially singled out Nevada as a waste destination -- triggering an all-out legal and political battle from the state -- "has not worked to produce a timely solution for dealing with the nation's most hazardous radioactive materials."

"The United States has traveled nearly 25 years down the current path only to come to the point where continuing to rely on the same approach seems destined to bring further controversy, litigation and protracted delay," commissioners said.

Failure to solve the problem of what to do with the nation's radioactive waste is risking the future of nuclear power while damaging the public's confidence in the government and the U.S. standing as a world leader, they said.

The matter was made more urgent following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster that crippled the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant in Japan, damaging the cooling pools that contain spent fuel and causing key lawmakers to re-examine how U.S. reactors are designed.

Robert Halstead, executive director of the Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, said the commission's recommendations help pave a path away from Yucca Mountain.

The report "helps bury Yucca Mountain by indicating what the path forward should be," Halstead said. "The obvious next question is how does the country go forward."

The commission said Congress would need to pass comprehensive new legislation to set a new path, a process that could take years. A commission representative briefed lawmakers and staff on Wednesday, officials said.

The panel recommended setting aside 15 to 20 years to find a repository and get it licensed.

While such an approach might seem slow to some people, "experience leads us to conclude that there is no shortcut and that any attempt to short-circuit the process will most likely lead to more delay," commissioners said.

Several key senators began talking among themselves last fall on potential new policies on nuclear waste, including Sens. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., and Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn.

Bingaman, the chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, has scheduled to hearing for Feb. 2 to begin dissecting the commission's recommendations.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., who has led the state's campaigns against the Yucca repository, applauded the report.

"The Blue Ribbon Commission's final report is a critical step toward safely and securely managing nuclear waste," Reid said.

"Most importantly this report makes abundantly clear that no state, tribe or community should be forced to store spent nuclear fuel or high-level waste without its express consent," Reid said.

Contact Stephens Washington Bureau Chief Steve Tetreault at stetreault@stephensmedia.com or 202-783-1760.

FACT SHEET: President Obama's Blueprint to Make The Most of America's Energy Resources

In his State of the Union Address, President Obama laid out a [Blueprint for an America Built to Last](#), underscoring his commitment to an all-of-the-above approach that develops every available source of American energy. This commitment includes the safe and responsible production of our oil and natural gas resources. Today, American oil production is at the highest level in eight years and last year we relied less on foreign oil than in any of the past 16 years.

At the same time, the President believes we need to double-down on clean energy in the United States. Transitioning to cleaner sources of energy will enhance our national security, protect the environment and public health, and grow our economy and create new jobs. Over the past few years, renewable energy use has nearly doubled. In fact, in 2011, the United States reclaimed the position as the world's leading investor in clean energy – but staying on top will depend on smart, aggressive action moving forward.

President Obama will begin the second day of his post-State of the Union swing with an event at a UPS facility in Las Vegas, focusing on the importance of American workers developing American-made energy for an economy that's built to last. Following this event, the President will travel to Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora, Colorado to deliver remarks on American energy and the steps his Administration is taking to promote energy security.

President Obama's Plan to Advance Safe Production of Oil and Gas Resources To Create Jobs, Enhance Energy Security, and Cut Pollution

Make a new lease sale in the Gulf of Mexico to move forward on our national commitment to safe and responsible oil and gas development: In his State of the Union Address, the President directed the Department of Interior to finalize a national offshore energy plan that makes 75% of our potential offshore resources available for development by opening new areas for drilling in the Gulf and Alaska. On Thursday, the President will take a concrete step forward to develop our oil and gas resources, announcing that the Department of Interior will hold a new lease sale in the Gulf of Mexico. This lease sale will make approximately 38 million acres available, and could result in the production of 1 billion barrels of oil and 4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Promote safe, responsible development of the near 100-year supply of natural gas, supporting more than 600,000 jobs while ensuring public health and safety: In 2009, we became the world's leading producer of natural gas. In the State of the Union, the President directed the Administration to ensure safe shale gas development that, according to independent estimates, will support more than 600,000 jobs by the end of the decade. These actions will include moving forward with common-sense new rules to require disclosure of the chemicals used in fracking operations on public lands.

Reducing our dependence on oil by encouraging greater use of natural gas in transportation: The President's plan includes: proposing new incentives for medium- and heavy-duty trucks that run on natural gas or other alternative fuels; launching a competitive grant program to support communities to overcome the barriers to natural gas vehicle deployment; developing transportation corridors that allow trucks fueled by liquefied natural gas to transport goods; and supporting programs to convert municipal buses and trucks to run on natural gas and to find new ways to convert and store natural gas.

Harnessing American ingenuity to catalyze breakthrough technologies for natural gas: The Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) will announce a new research competition in the coming months that will engage our country's brightest scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs to find ways to harness our abundant supplies of domestic natural gas to lessen our dependence of foreign oil for vehicles. The breakthrough technologies they will develop, whether they are for new ways to fuel our cars with natural gas or a method to turn that gas into liquid fuel, promise to break our dependence on foreign oil for our cars and trucks, allow us to breathe cleaner air, and ultimately save consumers at the pump. To date ARPA-E has hosted four rounds of competitions and attracted over 5000 applications from research teams, which has resulted in approximately 180 cutting edge projects.

The President's Commitment to Clean Energy

Doubling the share of electricity from clean energy sources by 2035: The centerpiece of the Administration's strategy is a Clean Energy Standard, or "CES" – a flexible approach that harnesses American ingenuity and innovation, and channels it toward a clean energy future. By creating a market here at home for innovative clean energy technologies, we will unleash the ingenuity of our entrepreneurs and ensure that America leads the world in clean energy.

Supporting clean energy with targeted tax incentives: The President supports renewing and extending a number of proven and successful provisions that are crucial to the continued growth of the domestic clean energy sector. This includes tax incentives for clean energy manufacturing, which could create up to 100,000 jobs, and the Production Tax Credit to support investment in the deployment of clean energy technologies like wind and solar.

Opening public lands for private investments in clean energy: To enhance energy security and create new jobs, the Department of the Interior is committed to issuing permits for 10 gigawatts of renewable generation capacity – enough to power 3 million homes – from new projects on our public lands by the end of 2012.

Securing renewable energy for the U.S. Navy: Securing a safe, clean and reliable energy supply for our nation's defense forces is essential to carrying out missions vital to the security of the United States. The Department of Navy has committed to adding 1 gigawatt of renewable energy produced from sources like solar, wind, and geothermal to its energy portfolio for shore-side installations – enough to power 250,000 homes. Using existing authorities such as power

purchase agreements, the Navy will ensure these energy projects are cost neutral and require no up-front investments by the government.

President Obama's Blueprint to Support Nevada Manufacturing Jobs, Discourage Outsourcing, and Encourage Insourcing

January 25, 2012

In his State of the Union address, President Obama laid out a [Blueprint for an America Built to Last](#), encouraging companies to create manufacturing jobs in the United States while removing deductions for shipping jobs overseas and encouraging insourcing. During the past two years, we have begun to see positive signs in American manufacturing – with the manufacturing sector adding more than 300,000 jobs since December 2009, with companies engaging in the emerging trend of “insourcing” by bringing jobs back and making additional investments in the United States.

The proposals the President is describing today are designed to build on this progress. They include six proposals that Congress should act on immediately to encourage job growth in the United States and that are fully paid for by closing tax loopholes that encourage the shifting of jobs and shielding of profits overseas. The measures the President is announcing will help support the manufacturing sector in **Nevada**, which employs **35,800** workers across the state. It will increase the incentives for the approximately **1,700** manufacturing firms located in Nevada to invest and create new jobs here rather than abroad, while encouraging other manufacturers to start up and move here. These investments will help not only create new manufacturing jobs, but also those throughout the economy whose jobs are supporting by manufacturing – up and down the supply chain, and in manufacturing communities.

The President is proposing the following revenue-neutral reform package to support manufacturing, discourage outsourcing, and encourage insourcing that Congress should act on immediately:

1. Removing tax deductions for shipping jobs overseas and providing new incentives for bringing them back home (*revenue neutral*): The tax code currently allows companies moving operations overseas to deduct their moving expenses – and reduce their taxes in the United States as a result. The President is proposing to change that. These deductions will be denied, and companies will no longer be provided deductions for moving their operations abroad. At the same time, the President is proposing to give a 20 percent income tax credit for the expenses of moving operations back into the United States to help companies bring jobs home.

- For example: If a company was closing a plant to move that plant overseas and incurred \$1 million in expenses – ranging from the cost of scrapping equipment to shipping physical capital to clean up costs – it could right now deduct those expenses, and get a tax reduction of \$350,000 (assuming the firm faces the 35 percent statutory tax rate). The President proposes to eliminate this tax deduction. And, if a corporation moving jobs to the U.S. incurred similar expenses, the President proposes to provide that company

with a tax credit of \$200,000 to help offset these costs and encourage investment here at home.

- 2. Targeting the domestic production incentive on manufacturers who create jobs here at home and doubling the deduction for advanced manufacturing (*revenue neutral*):** In conjunction with the President's broader commitment to corporate tax reform, the Administration is proposing measures to provide incentives for manufacturing in the United States. The Administration is proposing to reform the current deduction for domestic production by more narrowly focusing it on manufacturing activities—for example, it would no longer cover oil production. These savings would be invested in expanding the deduction for manufacturers and *doubling* for advanced manufacturing technologies from its current level of 9 percent to 18 percent.
- 3. Introducing a new Manufacturing Communities Tax Credit to encourage investments in communities affected by job loss (*\$6 billion in credits*):** The President is proposing a new credit for qualified investments that help finance projects in communities that have suffered a major job loss event. This credit will provide \$2 billion per year in incentives for three years. For this purpose, a major job loss event occurs when a military base closes or a major employer closes or substantially reduces a facility or operating unit, resulting in permanent layoffs. The tax credit would support qualified investments in this affected community – made in conjunction with State Economic Development Agencies and other local entities – that improve local economic growth.
- 4. Providing temporary tax credits to drive nearly \$20 billion in domestic clean energy manufacturing (*\$5 billion in credits*):** The President is proposing to extend tax credits to drive nearly \$20 billion of investment in domestic clean energy manufacturing, ensuring new windmills and solar panels will incorporate parts that are produced and assembled by American workers. This Advanced Energy Manufacturing Tax Credit – which was oversubscribed more than three times over – goes to investments in clean energy manufacturing in the United States. The additional \$5 billion in tax credits the President is proposing will leverage nearly \$20 billion in total investment in the United States.
- 5. Reauthorizing 100% expensing of investment in plants and equipment (*\$4 billion*):** The President is proposing to extend for all of 2012 a provision that allows businesses to expense the full cost of their investments in equipment, spurring investment in the United States. Over the next two years, this would provide businesses large and small with \$50 billion in tax relief, with much of that recovered by the Treasury in subsequent years.
- 6. Closing a loophole that allows companies to shift profits overseas (*raises \$23 billion*):** Corporations right now can abuse the tax system by inappropriately shifting profits overseas from intangible property created in the United States. The President is proposing to close this loophole.

At the same time as the President is calling for immediate enactment of this plan, he is also pushing forward on a framework for corporate tax reform that would encourage even greater investment in the United States, while eliminating tax advantages for outsourcing. This framework will include:

- **Making companies pay a minimum tax for profits and jobs overseas and investing the savings in cutting taxes here at home, especially for manufacturing:** The President is proposing to eliminate tax incentives to ship jobs offshore by ensuring that all American companies pay a minimum tax on their overseas profits, preventing other countries from attracting American business through unusually low tax rates. The savings would be invested in cutting taxes here at home, especially for manufacturing.
- **Making permanent an expanded Research and Experimentation Tax Credit:** The President has proposed to make permanent the Research and Experimentation Tax Credit, while enhancing and simplifying the credit. About 70 percent of the benefit directly supports jobs in the United States, and every dollar spent encourages U.S.-based investment, as only research and experimentation performed in the United States is eligible.
- **Simplify the tax code and close loopholes:** Over the nearly three decades since the last comprehensive reform effort, the tax system has been loaded up with special deductions, credits, and other tax expenditures that help well-connected special interests, but do little for our Nation's economic growth. The President's framework will close these loopholes and simplify the tax code so businesses can focus on investing and creating jobs rather than filling out tax forms.

Building on Progress

- **Providing tax incentives to help businesses grow and invest:** Building off earlier measures, the President signed into law a provision that allowed businesses, both large and small, to immediately write off 100% of the costs of new investment in equipment in the United States. This is among the 17 tax cuts the President has signed into law for small businesses, including measures that temporarily eliminated capital gains taxes on key small business investments and raised expensing limits for small firms.
- **Providing tax incentives to support domestic investment in clean energy technology manufacturing:** The Recovery Act's Advanced Energy Manufacturing Tax Credit provided \$2.3 billion in incentives that catalyzed an additional \$5.4 billion in private sector investment in projects to manufacture the next generation of solar, wind, geothermal, vehicle, energy efficiency, and other clean energy technologies.
- **Temporary tax cuts to increase investment and jobs:** The President has signed into law \$200 billion in tax relief and incentives for America's businesses to encourage them to make new investments and create new jobs – relief that was paid out over the last three years. This includes provisions that directly benefit those businesses that did the most to boost investment and hiring.
- **Cracking down on overseas tax avoidance and loopholes:** The President has taken strong steps to crack down on overseas tax evasion and loopholes – measures that will save billions of dollars over the next decade and make sure that everyone plays by the same rules. This includes signing into law the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, which targets tax evasion by U.S. citizens holding investments in foreign accounts, as well as

measures to crack down on abuse of foreign tax credits through games that allowed multinational companies to inappropriately reduce the amount of taxes they paid here at home.

FACT SHEET: President Obama's Blueprint for Keeping College Affordable and Within Reach for All Americans

“Of course, it’s not enough for us to increase student aid... States also need to do their part, by making higher education a higher priority in their budgets. And colleges and universities have to do their part by working to keep costs down.”

*President Barack Obama
State of the Union, January 24, 2012*

In his State of the Union address, President Obama laid out a blueprint for an economy that’s built to last – an economy built on American manufacturing, American energy, skills for American workers, and a renewal of American values. As an important part of keeping the American promise alive, the President called for a comprehensive approach to tackling rising college costs. In today’s global economy, a college education is no longer just a privilege for some, but rather a prerequisite for all. To reach a national goal of leading the world with the highest share of college graduates by 2020, we must make college more affordable.

President Obama has emphasized the responsibility shared by the federal government, states, colleges, and universities to promote access and affordability in higher education, by reining in college costs, providing value for American families, and preparing students with a solid education to succeed in their careers. Over the past three years, the Obama Administration has taken historic steps to help students afford college, including reforming our student aid system to become more efficient and reliable and by expanding grant aid and college tax credits.

This year, President Obama is calling on Congress to advance new reforms that will promote shared responsibility to address the college affordability challenge. If these proposals are passed, this will be the first time in history that the federal government has tied federal campus aid to responsible campus tuition policies.

President Obama will begin the third day of his post-State of the Union travels with an event at the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor, focusing on the importance of tackling rising college costs to ensure America’s students and workers can obtain the education and training they need so that we have a workforce prepared for the jobs of the 21st century.

Shared Responsibility to Tackle Rising College Costs

Rewarding Schools that Keep College Affordable

· **The President’s proposal to reform student aid to keep tuition from spiraling too high and drive greater value** will improve distribution of federal financial aid and increase campus-based aid. This reform will reward colleges that are succeeding in meeting the following principles:

- 1) *Setting responsible tuition policy*, offering relatively lower net tuition prices and/or restraining tuition growth.
- 2) *Providing good value to students and families*, offering quality education and training that prepares graduates to obtain employment and repay their loans.
- 3) *Serving low-income students*, enrolling and graduating relatively higher numbers of Pell-eligible students.

The campus-based aid that the federal government provides to colleges through Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), Perkins Loans, and Work Study is distributed under an antiquated formula that rewards colleges for longevity in the program and provides no incentive to keep tuition costs low. The President is proposing to change how those funds are distributed by implementing an improved formula that shifts aid from schools with rising tuition to those acting responsibly, focused on setting responsible tuition policy, providing good value in education, and ensuring that higher numbers of low-income students complete their education. He is also proposing to increase the amount of campus-based aid to \$10 billion annually. The increase is primarily driven by an expansion of loans in the federal Perkins program – which comes at no additional taxpayer cost.

Colleges that can show that they are providing students with good long-term value will be rewarded with additional dollars to help students attend. Those that show poor value, or who don't act responsibly in setting tuition, will receive less federal campus-based aid. Students will receive the greatest government grant and loan support at colleges where they are likely to be best served, and little or no campus aid will flow to colleges that fail to meet affordability and value standards.

Creating New Incentives to Promote Affordability and Quality

- **The Race to the Top: College Affordability and Completion** will promote change in state systems of higher education. The President is proposing a program that would spur systemic state reforms to reduce costs for students and promote success in our higher education system at public colleges. This \$1 billion investment would incentivize states to:
 - Revamp the structure of state financing for higher education.
 - Align entry and exit standards with K-12 education and colleges to facilitate on-time completion.
 - Maintain adequate levels of funding for higher education in order to address important long-term causes of cost growth at the public institutions that serve two-thirds of four-year college students.

The Race to the Top for College Affordability and Completion would incentivize governors and state legislatures around the nation to act on spurring this innovative reform. Through cost-saving measures like redesigning courses and making better use

of education technology, institutions can keep costs down to provide greater affordability for students.

- **The First in the World competition** will improve long-term productivity in higher education by investing \$55 million to enable individual colleges (including Minority-Serving Institutions) and nonprofit organizations to develop, validate, or scale up innovative and effective strategies for boosting productivity and enhancing quality on campuses. This initiative would provide modest start-up funding for individual colleges, including private colleges, for projects that could lead to longer-term and larger productivity improvements among colleges and universities – such as course redesign through the improved use of technology, early college preparation activities to lessen the need for remediation, competency-based approaches to gaining college credit, and other ideas aimed at spurring changes in the culture of higher education.

Empowering Families and Students to be Informed Consumers

- New actions to provide consumers with clearer information about college costs and quality will improve the decision-making process in higher education for American students and allow families to hold schools accountable for their tuition and outcomes. President Obama is proposing new tools to provide students and families with information on higher education, presented in a comparable and easy-to-understand format:

- The Administration will create a **College Scorecard** for all degree-granting institutions making it easier for students and families to choose a college that is best suited to their needs, priced affordably, and consistent with their career and educational goals.
- We will also make an updated version of the ‘**Financial Aid Shopping Sheet**,’ announced in October, a required template for all colleges, rather than a voluntary tool, to make it easier for families to compare college financial aid packages.
- The President is also proposing to begin **collecting earnings and employment information** for colleges, so that students can have an even better sense of the post post-graduation outcomes they can expect.

Redoubling Federal Support to Tackle College Costs

- As highlighted by the President in his State of the Union address, we are calling on Congress to:
 - **Keep student loan interest rates low:** This summer, the interest rates on subsidized Stafford student loans are set to double from 3.4% to 6.8% – a significant burden at a time when the economy is still fragile and students are taking on increasing amounts of debt to earn a degree. The President is asking Congress to prevent that hike from taking place for a year to keep

student debt down, a proposal that will keep interest rates low for 7.4 million student loan borrowers and save the average student over a thousand dollars.

- **Double the number of work-study jobs available:** The President also proposes to double the number of career-related work-study opportunities so that students are able to gain valuable work-related experience while in school.
- **Maintain our commitment to college affordability:** Over 9 million students and families per year take advantage of the Obama Administration’s American Opportunity Tax Credit – supporting up to \$10,000 over four years of college. In his State of the Union address, the President called on Congress to make this tax credit permanent and prevent it from expiring in 2012.

Building on Progress

President Obama has worked throughout his Administration to expand access to college and provide greater resources and support so that more students graduate with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the workforce:

- ***Helping students and families pay for college: The Obama Administration has raised the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,635 next year – a \$905 increase since 2008.***

Making college loans more affordable: The Obama Administration’s “Pay as You Earn” plan will enable 1.6 million students to take advantage of a new option to cap student loan repayments at 10% of monthly income as soon as this year. Borrowers looking to determine whether or not income-based repayment is the right option for them should visit <http://studentaid.ed.gov/ibr>.

215 gifted students to be given \$875 each to attend program

By [Trevon Milliard](#) LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL Posted: Jan. 27, 2012 | 2:03 a.m.

About 215 gifted public school students will be given \$875 each to attend the Summer Advanced Gifted Education Academy at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The Clark County School Board approved the program at a total cost of \$188,125, but it won't cost the Clark County School District a cent. Funding comes from a federal grant for highly gifted students.

The summer program teaches middle and high school students over three weeks.

High school students will have the opportunity to earn three college-level honors credits and one high school enrichment credit. Middle school students can earn one college-level honors credit and eighth-graders can earn one high school enrichment credit.

Ethel Lois Moody Dixon (1936 - 2012)

Ethel Lois Moody Dixon passed away peacefully at home January 21, 2012 surrounded by her family. She was born December 31, 1936 in Willows, CA to Lawrence and Ethel Dickerson Moody. She was raised by her Aunt Neva Yankee and Uncle Sam Domingo. She entered the [U.S. Marine Corps](#) in June 1955. She married Alfred Santiago and had three children Doris, Kathleen, and Darryl. Ethel remarried to Elwood Smith and had two children Jolene and Lelaura. Worked for and retired from U.S. Postal Service. She is preceded in death by her mother and father; brothers Edward, Ronald, Rodney, and Wayne Tobey; sister Patricia Catherine Moody Curtis. She is survived by her children Doris Santiago Brooks, Kathleen Santiago Tietjen, Darryl Santiago, Jolene Smith Thomas and Lelaura Smith; sisters, Charlotte Fry, Sylvia McCloud, and Henrietta Tobey; and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. Visitation Wednesday, January 25, 2012 from 4 pm - 8 pm at Walton's Chapel of the Valley, 1281 N. Roop St., Carson City. Funeral services Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 1 pm also at Walton's. Interment Stewart Indian Cemetery followed by dinner at Stewart Community Center. Food donations accepted.

Norman Joseph Waller "Nummy"

Norman Joseph Waller was born on Oct. 2, 1954 to Adele E. Wasson-Snooks and John Albert Waller in Lovelock, Nevada.

He began his journey home on January 21, 2012 in Reno, NV.

His survivors include his mother, sister Linda Waller and brother Gary Wayne Snooks, nieces and a nephew, several great-nieces and nephews and many cousins.

Norman had just returned to Reno after the closing of the Gerlach schools. He took a position at Cold Springs middle school and enjoyed working with this class and new students and facility.

Norman continued his love of the outdoors in his fishing and bird hunting, along with some of his other outdoor adventures. Norman had many, many friends throughout.

Norman continued to love his agriculture background that he earned at his beloved UNR. Norman was a longtime supportive of the Nevada Wolf Pack sporting events.

Services will be held at Ross, Burke & Knobel on Kietzke Ln., Sat., 1/28 at 10 a.m. Burial to follow in Lovelock, NV at 2 p.m. at Lovelock Indian Cemetery. Lunch to follow.