

Journal #2651

from sdc

8.7.12

Racing the Rez
"Find Them, Teach Them, Treat Them!"
Lucrative Gambling Pits Tribe Against Tribe
Imperiled Legacy for African Art
Reclaiming the Forests and the Right to Feel Safe
Lake Tahoe Sees Less Public Money for Environment
Tahoe Lobster Co. starts putting crawfish on plates
Feds announce Nevada biofuel plant
2012 Shoshone-Bannock Indian Festival Handgame Tournament
Shingle Springs' Big Time

Racing the Rez

Release Date: Late 2012 Genre: Documentary Studio: Wolf Hill Films

Plot Outline

In the rugged canyon lands of Northern Arizona, Navajo and Hopi cross-country runners from two rival high schools fight for state championships while striving to find their place among their native people and the American culture surrounding them. Over the course of two racing seasons, life on America's largest Indian reservation emerges from the perspective of high school boys on the cusp of adu...See More

Produced By: Brian Truglio

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http://nativetelecom.org/racing_the_rez
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<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.co...>

"Find Them, Teach Them, Treat Them!"

Stephanie Stegman

Apparatus for determining sugar levels,19th cen., National Library of Medicine

Today, we think of type 2 diabetes as a medical condition that is easy to identify by a set of risk factors, most notably weight and family history. But until the end of the 20th century, diabetes was considered a "hidden" disease.

In 1945, the Public Health Service conducted the nation's first study to determine the prevalence of diabetes among the general public. The study's result---which revealed that for every four diabetics diagnosed, a stunning three diabetics went undiagnosed---led the American Diabetes Association to sponsor the first annual National Diabetes Week in December of 1948. This week-long awareness campaign and detection drive set the goal of finding a million unknown cases of diabetes in the United States and Canada with the charge "Find them! Teach Them! Treat Them!"

Public health officials and patient advocates, as well as drug companies, all promoted early detection in order to delay the onset and severity of complications. Yet, neither patients nor their family physicians knew much about the disease. This lack of knowledge meant that many diabetics, “whose disease smolders untreated,” were unaware of the dangers they faced.

Measuring insulin, Library of Congress, 1942

Public health officials and patient advocates, as well as drug companies, all promoted early detection in order to delay the onset and severity of complications. Yet, neither patients nor their family physicians knew much about the disease. This lack of knowledge meant that many diabetics, “whose disease smolders untreated,” were unaware of the dangers they faced.

In the early twentieth century, chemically colored test tubes and paper test strips measured the amount of sugar in urine. In the 1950s, Tillie, the Tin Technician, a portable electronic gadget, along with machines that had to be manually cranked in the 1960s, were used to measure blood sugars. Unlike the personal, automated blood glucose monitors which diabetics use today, these early machines measured the blood sugars of a large number of people in detection drives and surveys.

One historic diabetes survey demonstrated the extent to which the disease went undiagnosed. In 1965, the scientific journal *Diabetes* published new findings that diabetes among the the Pima of Arizona was 10-15% higher than that of the general population. This statistic was the highest prevalence of diabetes ever reported.

It had been a surprising discovery for researchers from the National Institutes of Health’s branch, the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases (NIAMD). In fact, the new cases of diabetes were diagnosed while studying a different chronic disease, arthritis.

Public Health Service Officers, Sacaton, Arizona, c. 1965, National Institutes of Health

NIAMD scientists arrived at the newly-expanded Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport in 1963. Members of the Gila River Indian Community, located approximately 35 miles away, had agreed to participate in a study of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in the dry heat of the Sonoran desert.

The Gila River Indian Reservation is located in southern Arizona where the Pimas farmed along the Gila River Valley. An Act of Congress established the reservation as the first in Arizona in 1859 on land that straddles the present-day Pinal and Maricopa counties. In 1857, the Akimel O’odham (Pimas) permitted the Yuman speaking Pee Posh (Maricopas) from Colorado to settle in the northwest portion of the reservation. However, the new survey only included residents from the first five of the seven administrative and cultural districts.

Researchers set up on the reservation portable, laboratory-equipped trailers to conduct blood tests and interview participants for the arthritis study. In a common practice of the time, scientists took some of the left over blood samples from the RA study to measure blood sugars. The samples revealed several previously undiagnosed cases of adult-onset diabetes. The newly

diagnosed cases were combined with known cases to reveal 30% of the adults in the study had high blood sugars after a meal. This accidental discovery was the first “hint” of the high rate of the disease among the community’s members.

On Labor Day 1965, the scientists returned to Arizona to establish a new research field unit to study arthritis, diabetes, and gallbladder disease. They set up a portable clinic of trailers with a laboratory, plus a van attached to a wing of the hospital located in the middle of the Gila River Indian Reservation.

The hospital in Sacaton had been built by the Office of Indian Affairs in 1942. Renovated as part of the Indian Facilities Act of 1957, the building was upgraded to include a two-chair dental unit, a pharmacist, and a laboratory technician. By the 1960s, the Division of Indian Health, part of the Public Health Service, staffed the 35-bed hospital. Sacaton was the headquarters for the Pima Service Unit and one of several hospitals, health centers and health stations that served Native Americans throughout Arizona and the Four Corners region.

Twice a month, the hospital staff in Sacaton held special clinics for diabetics in the Phoenix area. Even before the NIAMD scientists arrived in Arizona, diabetes already was a growing concern. In 1963, three reservations in the state identified “diabetic” as one of the major health concerns on the annual community health survey: Gila River, Papago, and Colorado River. Local doctors and health committees on the reservations also had noticed diabetes was on the rise.

Diet and nutrition were major health concerns for Native American communities nationwide. Limited access to nutritious food, especially fruits and vegetables, affected overall health and was part of larger issues, such as poverty, sanitation, clean drinking water and the poor quality of roads on some reservations.

A 1965 Division of Indian Health report recognized nutrition as a major health problem in the communities it served. “The quantity and quality of food available to and consumed by the majority of Indians and Alaska Natives are among the primary factors affecting growth and development and over-all health of children as well as the ultimate level of health for the adult.”

Sacaton Hospital, HABS, Library of Congress

In Arizona, the Gila River Indian Community saw health and economic prosperity as part of a lifestyle that they sought to attain. In 1966, the NIAMD Clinical Field Studies Unit built a more permanent, single-story wooden frame building with a separate entrance into the Sacaton hospital’s main hallway. The same year, Gila River’s leaders established a community development program called *Vh-thaw-hup-ea-ju* or “it must happen.”

At the dedication of the new building attached to the hospital, the Chief of the Clinical Field Unit, Dr. Thomas Burch, and the Executive Officer of the NIAMD, W. G. Baylis, presented Gila River Indian Community Governor Lloyd A. Allison with a souvenir book. The book, entitled “Arthritis and Diabetes Survey,” was a pictorial account of the arthritis and diabetes studies conducted on the reservation.

The ceremony was organized to highlight the cooperative nature of the project between community members, NIAMD scientists and Division of Indian Health staff. Over a thousand community members and guests attended the ceremony. A local band provided musical entertainment and guests took guided tours of the hospital and the new NIAMD facility.

To cap off the event, Miss Pima 1966, Jackie Davis, was photographed drinking Glucola, a cola-flavored glucose drink that study participants consumed before taking a blood test called a glucose tolerance test. While Glucola reportedly had a less than refreshing taste, Miss Davis was up to the task, even cracking a broad smile in one photograph.

The Arizona study was part of a much larger growing body of knowledge about diabetes. By the 1970s, a new consensus, based on more accurate measurements of insulin levels in the bloodstream, led to the current classification of the disease into two basic types: the body's inability to produce insulin or "insulin dependent" (type 1) versus ineffective use of insulin or "insulin resistant" (type 2). Today, type 1 diabetes is considered an autoimmune disorder.

Despite these differences, medical literature and vital statistics still refer to all forms of the disease under the single heading of "*diabetes mellitus*." *Mellitus* comes from the Latin word for sweet like honey.

The National Diabetes Mellitus Research and Education Act of 1974 and subsequent campaigns increased awareness, often targeted toward specific "at risk" groups. But identifying the undiagnosed diabetic was not enough. Prevention became the new goal for an epidemic no longer "hidden" from public view.

For further reading:

National Library of Medicine's online exhibit "[Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness](#)" (also available as an iPad app)

National Institutes of Health, "[The Pima Indians: Pathfinders for Health](#)"

[Chris Feudtner, Bittersweet: Diabetes, Insulin, and the Transformation of Illness](#)

Robert Tattersall, *Diabetes: The Biography*

Carolyn Smith-Morris, *Diabetes among the Pima: Stories of Survival*

Stephanie Stegman received her BA from Southern Methodist University and her Ph.D. in history from Arizona State University in 2012 where she was a recipient of the Graduate College Completion Fellowship for her dissertation, Taking Control: Fifty Years of Diabetes in the American Southwest, 1940-1990. You can find her at her blog, [Finding Aids and Beyond](#).

Lucrative Gambling Pits Tribe Against Tribe

By NORIMITSU ONISHI NYT

Published: August 4, 2012

OROVILLE, Calif. — A pitted gravel road snakes through the forest to the Enterprise Rancheria of the Maidu Indians' sole piece of tribal land about 15 miles east of here in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Broken trailers and a hot tub rejiggered to irrigate a garden sit in a clearing, the few acres of flat land where a handful of people live in houses in disrepair.

With little accessible space on its 40-acre territory, the 800-member tribe used government grants last year to buy a nearby trailer park that is now home to a dozen families. About half live in old trailers that were used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to house those displaced by [Hurricane Katrina](#).

To pull itself out of poverty, the tribe applied in 2002 to build an off-reservation casino at a spot with more economic potential, near towns and highways about 35 miles south of here. After the federal government gave its approval last year, the final decision now rests with Gov. Jerry Brown, who is expected to decide on the fate of the Enterprise casino and another tribe's off-reservation proposal by an Aug. 31 deadline.

But plans for the two casinos are drawing fierce opposition and last-minute lobbying in the state capital from an unexpected source: nearby tribes with casinos that they say will be hurt by the newcomers. Leading the fight against Enterprise is the United Auburn Indian Community, whose casino, Thunder Valley, has become one of America's most profitable and has brought the formerly destitute tribe unimaginable riches.

"It's really sad right now in Indian country with the divide between the haves and have-nots," said Cindy Smith, the secretary of Enterprise's tribal council. "It's just a struggle to get on equal footing. And even when you're on equal footing, you're really not, because we're almost two decades behind."

Since Indian gambling was legalized in the United States in 1988, only five tribes have gotten final clearance to build casinos off their reservations. The intense campaign against Enterprise and the other applicant, the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians, comes as the gambling market has grown crowded, especially here in California.

Opposing tribes accuse the newcomers of encroaching on areas to which they have no historical ties. "We have other tribes out there doing what we call reservation shopping," said Brenda Adams, the treasurer of United Auburn. "We played by the rules. We had to stay on our historical lands. They call it equal footing, but is it? We'd like to have a casino in downtown San Francisco, but that's not our territory."

The issue has raised larger issues in Indian communities across the nation about the goals of gambling. A decade ago, tribes were united in their efforts to further Indian gambling, which was supposed to give them the means to become self-sufficient, said Steven Light, co-director of the University of North Dakota's Institute for the Study of Tribal Gaming Law and Policy. But he said that talk of "fairness and justice" has given way in an increasingly competitive market.

A short drive from Sacramento — and about 30 miles from Enterprise's planned site — Thunder Valley has a 2,700-machine casino, a 300-room hotel, an amphitheater and a golf course. Helicopters fly in high rollers from San Francisco. With 80 percent of its revenues coming

directly from gambling, Thunder Valley is so profitable that it has transformed the lives of its owners, the 400-member United Auburn tribe, most of whom received welfare benefits until the casino opened in 2003, said Ms. Adams, 40.

The tribal council has provided housing for members, built group homes for troubled children and connected residential areas to water and sewer systems. All members receive free health care and dental benefits. Children making the honor roll receive hundreds of dollars as incentives. Tribal trips were made to France, Italy and Mexico.

The tribe's 200 adult members each receive a share of the casino's revenues, a cut that the local news media has reported as \$30,000 a month per member but that industry experts estimate is more. Douglas G. Elmets, a spokesman for the tribe and a former White House spokesman during the Reagan administration, said only that members did not need to work for financial reasons, but that many did in tribal affairs.

Imperiled Legacy for African Art

By HOLLAND COTTER

In Djenne-Djenno in sub-Saharan Africa, theft and fighting have left many archaeological sites open to looting and outright destruction.

1 [Interactive Feature: An Art Critic in Africa](#)

Reclaiming the Forests and the Right to Feel Safe

By KARLA ZABLUDOVSKY

The people of Cherán, Mexico, who say they have long been terrorized by an armed group of illegal loggers, rose up and took the law into their own hands.

Lake Tahoe Sees Less Public Money for Environment

The annual Tahoe summit takes place next week in Stateline, Nev. This year's theme is public-private partnership -- which may well be a sign of how protecting the Tahoe basin will work in future

Kathleen Masterson, Capital Public Radio

Since the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act passed in 2000, the majority of the \$1.5 billion of funding for environmental projects has come from state and federal governments.

Tahoe Lobster Co. starts putting crawfish on plates

Axie Navas. Tahoe Daily Tribune

Crawfish gripped the decks of the Ellie June on Thursday as Fred Jackson and his nephew Justin Pulliam guided the boat from trap to trap off the shore of Sand Harbor, pulling up hundreds of crustaceans to sell to restaurants and casinos in Nevada.

"We have to have one mind for the Four Directions. Until we reach that one mind, we cannot

be filled with understanding.... The Creator will not answer until you have just one mind, just like if you have one person." --Grandfather William Commanda, ALGONQUIN

The Elders have taught us to balance our lives emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. If I am out of control emotionally, I get angry, doubtful or erratic, I am out of balance. If I trigger bad mental pictures of my brothers and sisters, I am out of balance. If I get too hungry, angry, lonely, or tired, I am out of balance physically. If I don't pray and talk to the Creator daily, I am out of balance spiritually. To be centered, I must be in balance. The Creator talks to me in the quiet and still place. So if I get angry, what I should do first is to pause and get still so I can hear the guidance of the Grandfathers.

Oh Great Spirit whose voice I hear in the winds, protect and keep me safe today - hear my prayers.

Feds announce Nevada biofuel plant rgj 8.7.12

CARSON CITY, NEV. — Common household trash will be converted into ethanol for transportation fuel at a planned biofuel production facility in northern Nevada backed by a \$105 million federal loan guarantee announced by the Obama administration Monday.

The Fulcrum Sierra BioFuels project will help reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil and advance efforts to develop a cleaner, more sustainable alternative energy source, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack tells The Associated Press.

The company, a subsidiary of Fulcrum BioEnergy Inc. headquartered in Pleasanton, Calif., plans to convert 147,000 tons of municipal solid waste into 10 million gallons of ethanol annually at the new plant.

It will be the first such biofuel facility in the region and will serve as a flagship for other plants around the country, said Fulcrum Vice President Rick Barraza.

“What’s exciting about this project, it’s our first commercial scale facility,” Barraza said. “This is really a watershed project.”

News of the project and its backing by the federal government coincides with an annual National Clean Energy Summit being held Tuesday in Las Vegas and hosted by Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev.

“Today’s announcement will mean hundreds of good paying jobs and a continued commitment by Nevada to help reduce our dependence on oil,” said Reid in a statement, calling the project “another important step in the right direction toward making Nevada and our country more energy independent.”

The plant will be built 20 miles east of Reno in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center in Storey County. Officials said the project will create 430 construction jobs and 53 permanent jobs after completion by 2015.

In an interview before Monday's announcement, Vilsack said the technology used to create transportation fuel from garbage takes the biofuel industry to the next level.

"We're basically trying to create opportunities in all parts of the country," he said.

The federal loan guarantee is being issued under the USDA's Rural Development Biorefinery Assistance Program that was part of the 2008 farm bill.

Barraza said the company has already obtained a bank loan for the project and the federal government's guarantee provides added assurance to the lender of repayment.

"The USDA is only there if there's a problem, and we certainly don't anticipate any," he said.

Vilsack said such guarantees "create enough confidence in the other funders to allow the project to go forward."

He also said the agency has funded seven other biorefineries around the country that use an assortment of sources — from agriculture residue, woody biomass and algae.

But unlike other so-called feedstocks such as corn, which must be grown, trash is cheap and plentiful.

The trash-to-gas concept has been tried on a smaller scale in other places around the country, Vilsack said, and "has the potential to substantially reduce the pressure on landfills."

"What makes our business model unique, unlike other biomass, we're getting the garbage for no cost," Barraza said. "That helps lower the cost of production and lowers the cost of ethanol."

Fulcrum has 20-year contracts with Waste Management and Waste Connections Inc. to provide the garbage that will be sorted to remove other recyclables such as plastics, cans, bottles and paper. The plant will also use walnut shells from a processing facility in the same industrial park.

From there, the ethanol will be sold to Tenaska BioFuels LLC, which will market it to blenders in the Nevada and Northern California region as a gasoline additive.

Most fuel sold for passenger cars and pickups today is 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent gasoline.

Barraza said the company is already looking down the road to expand its trash biofuel footprint around the country once the Nevada plant is up and running.

"We have access to garbage in 19 states already," he said.

2012 Shoshone-Bannock
Indian Festival Hand Game Tournament
Fort Hall, Idaho *August 9-12, 2012*



\$20,000.00 Guaranteed Cash Payout - Sponsored by the Fort Hall Casino

1st Place \$6,500.00; 2nd Place \$5,500.00

3rd Place \$4,500.00; 4th Place \$3,500.00

Registration opens 11 am and closes at 7 pm **Saturday, August 11, 2012** Tournament will begin at 3pm. Double Elimination, 3-5 members per team, Entry Fee \$125.00 per team (Cash Only)

Friday, August 10, 2012

Bone Hog Tournament

Added Payout \$3,000.00

Entry Fee \$40.00 per Team

2 Players per team, Single Elimination

Registration opens at 3pm and Closes at 6pm
Tournament will begin shortly after

For more information call Tracy Preppel at 208-296-8811 or Rachel Hall at 1-800-497-4211 x. 8028 or email tracy@shoshonebannock.com

Sunday, August 12, 2012

3-Man Hand Game Tournament

Added Payout \$2,000.00

Entry Fee \$60.00 per Team

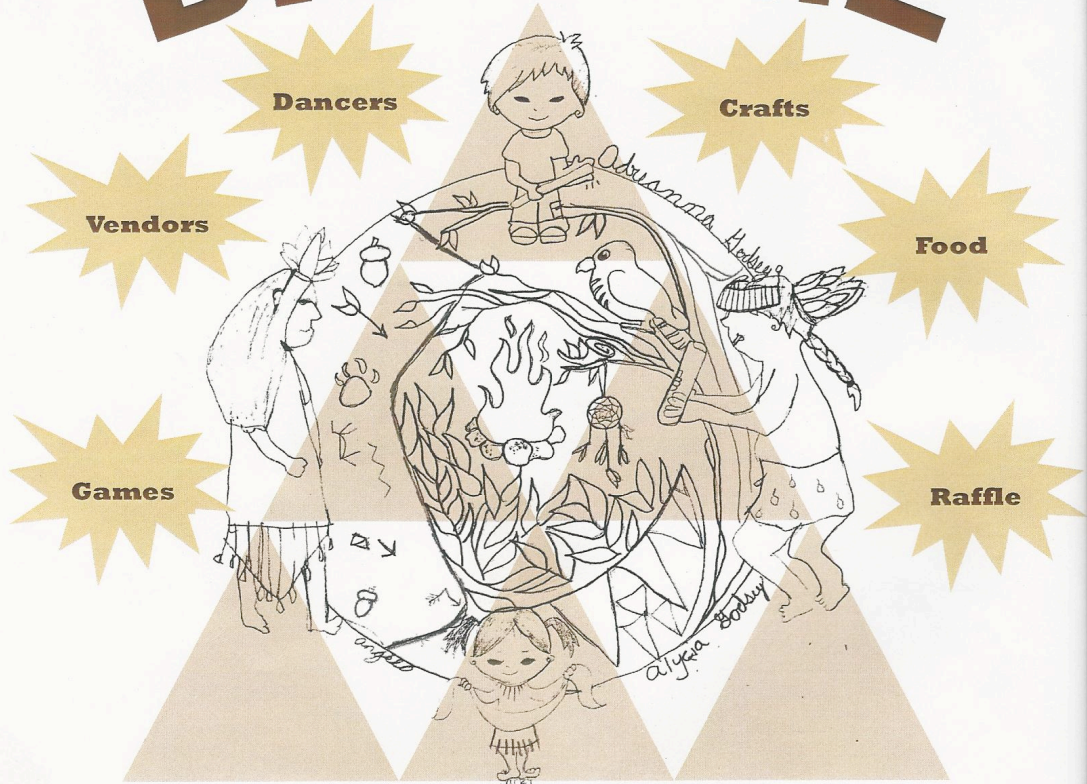
3 Players per team, Single Elimination

Registration opens at Noon and closes at 2pm
Tournament will begin at 3pm

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the Fort Hall Casino are not responsible for theft, loss, or accidents toward attendees. Absolutely No Alcohol on the Premises

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

BIG TIME



**Saturday, Aug. 25 • 10 am - 9 pm &
Sunday, Aug. 26 • 10 am - 7 pm**

Free Event • Open to the Public • Drug and Alcohol Free

Shingle Springs Rancheria, 5281 Honpie Rd. Placerville, CA 95667

For More Information Please Call 530-698-1400

Artwork by Adrianna Godsey, Alycia Godsey and Angelo Gonzales. Poster Design by Raven Fonseca.