

Journal #2708

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Liquid GOLD

DEVELOPER BILL WALTERS SELLING GROUNDWATER HOLDINGS

Goodwill Is hiring for an Employment Specialist II

HUNAP Opportunities: Internships/Fellowships/ Miscellaneous

Liquid GOLD. Written by Jim Sloan/Photos by Jeff Ross

EARLIER THIS YEAR, Washoe County decided to auction off some water rights it owned in the North Valleys area. The water was freed up when the county-owned Sierra Sage Golf Course switched from using potable drinking water for irrigation to using highly treated wastewater. That left the county parks department with 174 acre-feet of water for which it had no use.

An acre-foot is enough water to cover an acre of land with a 1-foot-deep pond, and 174 acre-feet is enough to supply 174 families of four people with water for a year. So, by modern Northern Nevada growth standards, it wasn't a lot of water.

But it was, in many ways, very special water, for it represented the last available chunk of water rights for the Stead and Lemmon Valley areas. It's an area where developers want to build — and build a lot — but many of the projects planned for that area were stalled when state officials realized they overestimated the amount of water available there and took back water rights they had already approved.

So developers came armed with their checkbooks that night in March. With demand for housing high and Northern Nevada housing prices soaring into California's stratosphere, paying a little extra for the fundamental element that makes houses grow in the Truckee Meadows — a clear, unquestionable water source — seemed to make good economic sense.

But even the most optimistic water watchers could not have anticipated just how valuable that water would prove to be by evening's end.

All told, the county made \$7 million. That's more than \$40,000 per acre-foot and nearly three times the water's appraised value. Government officials who came to the auction thinking they would easily pluck up a few acre-feet to keep on hand to sell to small-time builders simply watched, their jaws going slack as bidders from such big-time operators as Centex Homes pushed prices higher and higher.

"We bid at the whole lot, but not at the prices they ended up at," says Lori Williams, executive director of the Truckee Meadows Water Authority, the water purveyor for 85,000 customers in Washoe County. "That was not a game we wanted to be in." While the North Valleys water auction was, in some ways, an anomaly — an unexpected gusher that erupted at just the right time and just the right place to make the water unusually valuable — in other ways, it is a reflection of what's happening all over the Truckee Meadows. Our water supply is limited, and the supply of available water is quickly shrinking at a time when the demand for new homes is skyrocketing. You don't have to be Alan Greenspan to know the price of water is going up.

Just four years ago, rights to an acre-foot of water sold for about \$3,200 in the Truckee Meadows. Today, the price is at least twice that and often higher.

Williams has experts in the field talking to people who own water rights, but lately every deal she puts on the table gets topped by somebody else. One offer of \$7,200 per acre-foot was trumped by a bid of \$9,000. Another time, developers came in with an offer of \$11,000 per acre-foot. And no one is expecting those prices to level off any time soon.

“Water has always been a valuable commodity in the Truckee Meadows, but with so many people wanting to move here, its importance has taken on new dimensions,” Williams says.

Water lesson

The Truckee Meadows water picture is at once labyrinthine and simple. It’s easy to get lost in talk about Orr Ditch decrees, negotiated settlements, and the complex history and politics of the matter. Some of it just doesn’t make sense. Such as how a Nevada water company can control water in California lakes and reservoirs, or why Nevada farmers maintain a dam that holds back water in a reservoir built by the federal Bureau of Reclamation on land in California.

So don’t go there.

What you need to know is this: The Truckee River supplies about 85 percent of our domestic needs and the rest comes out of carefully regulated wells tapping underground aquifers. The amount of water available and, thus, the amount to which people are allowed rights each year was established by the courts and state engineers who have studied the matter tirelessly for decades. When there is a drought, there is not enough water to serve everyone’s rights, so some people have to go without. Those poor folks include ranchers and farmers or

landowners who irrigate with water drained from the Truckee because their rights have a lower priority than other users, including the municipal water companies that deliver water to our homes. So rest assured your tap will never go dry. Unless, of course, there is a nuclear holocaust or catastrophic global warming or some other kind of colossal ecological disaster.

In years when water is plentiful — when our frozen vault of snow in the Sierra is deep and mountain streams are surging with enthusiasm — extra water is siphoned off and stored in a variety of places. The top six feet of Lake Tahoe, for instance, is actually a reservoir. So is Independence Lake north of Truckee and the top layer of Donner Lake. Boca, Prosser, and Stampede reservoirs also hold water held back from the spring run-off. TMWA even stores extra water underground by “recharging” wells.

Most of the water serving new developments will come from developers buying up farmers’ water rights to Truckee Riverwater. The developers turn the rights over to TMWA and, in return, TMWA issues a “will-serve letter” for water equal to the rights surrendered by the farmer.

Houses in the fields

It’s no secret that irrigated fields are disappearing in the Truckee Meadows as those sparkling new subdivisions spring to life. But it might surprise you how fast those fields are being lost.

A few years ago, water experts determined there were about 51,000 acre-feet of “mainstem” Truckee River water rights being used for agriculture or tied up on land already covered in asphalt or concrete in the Truckee Meadows. They figured that was enough water to handle all the growth we could envision for the next 20 years.

But in just three years, some 10,000 acre-feet was swallowed up by development. For years the amount of agricultural water converted to domestic use remained steady at about 1,500 acre-feet a year. Then it jumped to 2,250 acre-feet and then two years ago it went to 3,000 acre-feet. Last year TMWA issued will-serve letters for 5,000 acre-feet.

TMWA wasn't the only operation seeing surprising growth. The Washoe County Department of Water Resources almost doubled its number of customers to more than 16,000 between 1997 to 2003. It's number of sewer connections tripled.

So now water planners are rethinking that 20-year estimate. If water is going to continue coming on line at the rate it's going now, those 51,000 acre-feet will be all used up well before 2025. But the experts say we are more likely to run out of buildable land before those Truckee River water rights are depleted.

Disappearing ranches

Don Casazza, a longtime rancher in the south Truckee Meadows and regional water planning commissioner, has watched the growth from his front porch. His ranch used to be 220 acres. He's sold most of it but still has 30 acres left.

“When they first brought that freeway (I-580) through, I thought, ‘Holy cow! Who all do they think needs a highway like that?’” he says. “But now it's all developed and people need a road like that.” It wasn't as hard as some might think to give up the ranching life. As more houses crowd up to your fields and the neighbors' dogs find out how much fun it is to run with your cows, selling the land and the water rights starts to make more sense.

If there's one thing ranchers like Don Casazza sound wistful about it's the irrigation ditches that still deliver water to their fields. There are eight major ditches that funnel water out of the Truckee and carry it all over the Truckee Meadows to water treatment plants and hundreds of small ranches that still use them for flood irrigation. Cassaza is vice president of one of the longest ditches — the 32-mile Steamboat Ditch that runs from the state line down to the south Truckee Meadows.

Although the number of people relying on ditches for irrigation water has remained the same, the amount of water running through many of the ditches has decreased over the years as more water is sold off for domestic uses. There's talk now of narrowing some of the ditches or combining them so less water is lost to absorption, but a lot of people would miss the ditches if any were to be abandoned. Some date back to the 1850s. The biggest one — the Highland Ditch, which delivers river water to TMWA's Chalk Bluff water treatment plant near West McCarran Boulevard — was built in 1880.

“I grew up in this valley and the ditches are a big part of the history and development of this area,” says Norm Dianda, president of Q&D Construction and, for the past 20 years, president of the Last Chance Ditch company.

Dianda and Casazza admit they endure some headaches running those two ditches. Downstream users complain about the guy above him taking too much water. It’s hard to find workers to patrol the water ways through the summer. And every year, it seems, there are more houses creeping up along the ditches and homeowners objecting to how the ditches are cleaned out.

But at the same time, you sense they love it every spring when they see that first head of water pushing through those old trenches.

“The southwest (Truckee Meadows) wouldn’t be what it is without that irrigation,” says Dianda, who irrigates his own 2.5 acres in the southwest with ditch water.

Future sources

Although water planners have estimated that we will run out of buildable land before we run out of water to serve projects on that land, planners already have started looking at future water options.

Steve Bradhurst, executive director of the Washoe County Department of Water Resources, expects a couple of thousand acre-feet of water rights will be freed up over the next decade as more projects or developments switch from using potable water for irrigation to using treated effluent. The county’s water reclamation plant near Rattlesnake Mountain treats the effluent, stores it through the winter in a reservoir and then treats it a second time before it’s piped to places like ArrowCreek and Wolf Run golf courses for irrigation. Bradhurst calls it “first-class reclaimed water” and it sells for about a third the price of potable water.

“What we’re doing is stretching our resources,” says Bradhurst. “You have to be smart about it.” So where will we grow when the Truckee Meadows is full and Truckee River water is all allocated? Well, follow the water. Right now the most likely source of additional water is from Fish Springs Ranch in northern Washoe County, where Vidler Water Company officials have been granted rights to 13,000 acre-feet of water. Company leaders have proposed delivering 8,000 acre-feet to the North Valleys from the ranch. The county also has 3,000 acre-feet in Dry Valley that they aren’t sure what to do with at this point.

Water planners also have scouted out locations for future reservoirs and have found eight possibilities, including two in Verdi, one in the Virginia range east of Hidden Valley, and sites along Thomas, Whites and Galena creeks in the south Truckee Meadows.

Water meters for all

In June of this year, TMWA finally finished installing water meters at every single family home it serves in the Truckee Meadows. TMWA officials still have some small apartment complexes and duplexes to meter, but 90 percent of their customers now have them. But, they aren’t being turned on yet.

This is because TMWA still is determining how everyone will pay his or her water bill. Most customers still can choose to pay a flat rate or pay a metered rate — at least until the authority's board members decide to “flip the switch” and put everyone on metered rates. Although board members have shown an eagerness to do that — if you charge by volume for milk and gas, it reasons, why not a valuable, limited resource like water? — the authority isn't rushing into it.

Initially, water officials wanted to make sure TMWA wasn't going to lose a lot of money switching from flat rates to metered rates and wind up in a deficit and be forced to raise rates. But after analyzing the issue, TMWA officials decided a budget shortfall wouldn't be created from the move.

In making the switch, TMWA officials are aiming at helping people understand why meters are important and what will happen to the water saved by meters and other conservation measures. For instance, they say, water being saved isn't going to new development — it's being stored in reservoirs or sent down river to help endangered fish in Pyramid Lake.

“The water only gets saved for drought or is turned over to the environment,” Williams says. “It doesn't go to future growth.” Meters have been a touchy issue for years. Users worried if they hooked up to meters somebody would finally realize how much water they use and their bills would go through the roof. Or they worried rates would be increased and their bills would go through the roof. But many customers have found they save money by switching to a metered rate.

It's true flat rates have climbed much faster in recent years than meter rates, but that wasn't an effort to push

people into meters, Williams says. The goal was to get flat-rate users to cover the cost of the water they are using.

“We have two types of people still on flat rates — those who are using way more than they are paying for and those who are using way less than they are paying for,” Williams says. “The guy who is paying \$70 a month and irrigating four acres is being subsidized by the other guy who has just a small garden.” The switch to meters isn't inevitable, but feel free to bet it will happen. For one thing, TMWA decision makers are strongly in favor of meters. But another factor is something called the Truckee River Negotiated Agreement, a proposed pact between all the water users of the Truckee River, from the Pyramid Lake Paiutes to farmers in Fallon to the Truckee Meadows Water Authority.

That proposal, which still is three to five years away from being finalized, includes a deal in which TMWA gets a boatload of upstream storage in exchange for putting their customers on water meters. Downstream users believed that was the best way to ensure the growing metropolitan area does not squander water that should be going to fish and lakes.

“The spirit of the deal was we meter and get storage,” says Williams, who worked with Sierra Pacific Power Company before it sold its water operation to the water authority in 2001.

But how much would meters save? Although studies show people's domestic consumption of water is "non-elastic" — they'll use a certain amount no matter how much it costs them — other studies show when water officials "flip the switch" to meters, they will save 4,000 acre-feet of water a year.

But that water won't be going to new homes, either; it will be stored in Stampede Reservoir for drought years when we really need it.

Understanding rates

There's been a fair amount of squawking in the four years since TMWA was formed and acquired the water system from Sierra Pacific. Some say the authority paid too much for the system, that it acquired a distribution network that needed a lot of repairs. Flat and metered rates were increased in November 2003 and again in March this year, and more than one customer will say they are worried about unchecked rate hikes in the future.

While it's true the authority can raise rates without going to the state Public Utilities Commission, as Sierra Pacific did, Williams says the authority will only charge what it has to.

"We're not profit-motivated," she says. "Everything we collect goes to serving the customer." And keeping the system running. Williams doesn't sugarcoat her description of the system she inherited from her former employer, Sierra Pacific.

"It's a 1960s Chevy. It was never a Cadillac and it certainly wasn't a Yugo," she says. "Some maintenance and rehabilitation on it was deferred, but not unjustifiably so." State and federal water quality regulations that emerged in the late 1990s forced Sierra Pacific to invest a lot of money in water treatment facilities and other operations that siphoned money away from routine upkeep.

"It's like if they had to put a new engine in, so work on the muffler and the brakes had to be deferred," Williams explained.

But, still, it's a reliable system. Service is rarely interrupted and water delivered is good quality.

Drought reserves

Although we had a pretty good winter in 2004-05, with the snowpack measuring 150 percent of normal in many watersheds, water experts like federal water master Garry Stone aren't saying we're out of a five-year drought yet. In fact, anybody who knows anything about the water picture won't say that until they are sure Lake Tahoe will fill to its artificial brim and all upstream reservoirs can be filled.

Stone is predicting Tahoe still will be about four feet below the dam at Tahoe City this summer and he doesn't expect the 226,500 acre-foot Stampede Reservoir to fill up either. Most of the other reservoirs will fill, however, and he doesn't expect to have any trouble maintaining river flows on the Truckee this summer.

Since the severe drought of 1986-1994, water officials say they've taken several steps to improve our storage to handle dry periods. In 1999, the state engineer granted TMWA a permit to store

treated river water underground and that aquifer under southwest Reno now contains 32,000 acre-feet of water, about a third of the annual demand by

TMWA customers. An interim agreement has allowed the authority to store another 14,000 acre-feet in Stampede and Boca, and when the river agreement is reached, that storage capacity will climb to 39,000 acre-feet.

But even with these preparations, it remains a challenge convincing the public all these efforts — including the twice-a-week watering rules — are not just so we can provide water for more houses.

“Getting people to practice conservation is one of our biggest challenges,” Bradhurst says. “They want to think it’s all going to new houses, but it’s not. We don’t have any more water now than we did 10 years ago; it’s just being used differently.

“But people need to realize that if they use half as much water, the half they save just stays in the creeks or in the rivers or in the ground or goes to Pyramid Lake. It just makes sense for them to conserve.”

Jim Sloan, 49, is a senior editor/projects at the Reno Gazette-Journal. He has written extensively about health, fitness, and environmental issues. He also is the author of several books.

[http://rgj.p2ionline.com/magazine/ss/index.aspx
adgroupid=36347&webstoryid=8641873&articleID=8641872&adid=1297640&type=art&&men
u=14](http://rgj.p2ionline.com/magazine/ss/index.aspx?adgroupid=36347&webstoryid=8641873&articleID=8641872&adid=1297640&type=art&&menu=14)

DEVELOPER BILL WALTERS SELLING GROUNDWATER HOLDINGS

The Walters Group, owned by entrepreneur and high-stakes gambler Bill Walters, is selling 150 acre-feet of fully transferable Las Vegas water rights for \$25,500 per acre-foot, almost \$4 million.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz14909709>

Employment Specialist II, Lewiston, ME:

Goodwill Is hiring for an Employment Specialist II position in Lewiston, ME to work with the Take 2 Program. This position will work with a dynamic team to provide job assessment, training, and support to help individuals obtain and maintain employment to at risk individuals who have a juvenile offense. This individual will work with the local community to enhance and establish program partnerships. The position can be viewed at: <http://www.goodwillnne.org/jobs/listing/employment-specialist-ii-1-2-1>. All applications must be completed online.

(HUNAP) Internship Opportunity Announcements

Title: Semester in Washington: Native American Political Leadership Program

Deadline: to apply for Spring 2013 deadline is **November 1, 2012**

The Native American Political Leadership Program (NAPLP) is a full scholarship program designed to give Native American undergraduates an incredible educational opportunity in the nation's capital. Partnering with Semester In Washington Politics, NAPLP students take classes at The George Washington University, participate in hands-on internships and interact with political leaders and policymakers. NAPLP includes a series of seminars devoted to public policy issues affecting Native American communities (American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian). It plays a key role in preparing the next generation of Native American political leaders.

To Apply:

1. [Application](#), including essay
2. One academic letter of recommendation
3. College transcripts from all institutions attended (unofficial transcripts are acceptable)
4. Resume
5. Indication of tribal enrollment and/or Native American, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian ancestry.

Contact: PH: 202-994-3284 F: 202-994-8471 E: naplp@gwu.edu

For more information, see <http://semesterinwashington.gwu.edu/native-american-political-leadership-program>

Title: Washington Internship for Native Students Location: Harvard Medical School

The American University's Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) Program is an exciting opportunity for American Indian/Alaskan Native/Native Hawaiian (AI/AN/NH) students to intern and study in Washington, DC, for the semester or the summer. Students intern 35-40 hours a week in a federal agency, or private organization, which sponsors AI/AN/NH students from across the country in a Washington, DC, internship. WINS student interns take three courses in the fall or spring term, earning 12 credit hours or 2 courses in the summer, earning 6 credit hours.

Through the WINS sponsorship program interns receive:

- transportation to and from DC
- tuition & books
- stipend for incidentals
- housing at American University's Tenley Campus dormitories
- meal plan
- social and cultural activities.

Eligibility: You are eligible if you are currently enrolled in an academic program (or have completed your degree within 6 months), will have a minimum of 45 credits earned by program start date and maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA. **Deadline:** Varies depending on semester.

Contact: PH: 202-895-4900 F: 202-895-4882 E: wins@american.edu

For more information, see <http://www.american.edu/spexs/wins/index.cfm>

About applying, see <http://www.american.edu/spexs/wins/How-to-Apply.cfm>

Title: Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship Program

Seven-week program structured to introduce or strengthen skills in economics, statistics, policy analysis, writing, public speaking and organization/time management. At the end of the seven-

week program, students will prepare and present a comprehensive group report on a current policy issue that will encompass the skills acquired in their coursework, including the seminar on the intercultural dimensions of policy making, field research, policy analysis, and writing, and computer workshops.

Each student enrolled in the PPIA Junior Summer Institute is fully funded and receives financial support for the total cost of the following:

- all courses and textbooks
- an on-campus meal plan and a meal allowance for breakfast and weekend meals
- access to the University libraries and athletic facilities
- a single room in a dormitory reserved solely for JSI students
- domestic travel expenses for arrival to the program and departure at the end of the program
- a \$1,500 stipend

Application Deadline: November 1, 2012

Contact: For more information, see <http://wws.princeton.edu/jsi/>.

Title: Princeton University's Program in Law and Public Affairs (LAPA)

Princeton University's Program in Law and Public Affairs (LAPA) invites outstanding faculty members, independent scholars, lawyers and judges to apply for appointments as resident Fellows for the academic year 2013-2014. Up to six fellows will be named who are engaged in substantial research on topics broadly related to law and public affairs or law and normative inquiry, including one LAPA/Humanities Fellow, for an early career scholar working at the intersection of law and humanistic inquiry. Successful candidates will devote an academic year, in residence at Princeton, to research, discussion and scholarly collaboration.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a doctorate, J.D. or an equivalent professional postgraduate degree.

Application Deadline: November 5, 2012

Contact: For more information, see <http://lapa.princeton.edu>.

MISCELLANEOUS OPPORTUNITIES

Title: The Great Law at Work: The Mohawk Community Decision Making Process at Kahnawà:ke

Date: Thursday, **November 1st, 5pm**
Beneski Museum of Natural History, Amherst College

Location: Paino Lecture Hall,

With the 1979 Community Mandate to move towards Traditional Government, the community of Kahnawà:ke has consistently requested more involvement in decision-making on issues that affect the community as a whole. The Kahnawà:ke Community Decision Making Process is a response to the community's call for a more culturally relevant and inclusive process for making community decisions and enacting community laws. The Process is a transitional measure to assist and facilitate the legislative function of Kahnawà:ke governance and draws on ancient principles of respect, equality and 'one mind' inherent in the Great Law of Peace.

This presentation illustrates the development of the process and how consensus based decision making functions in the modern setting of Kahnawà:ke with the goal of illustrating Indigenous participatory democracy in action.

Kahente Horn-Miller holds a Ph.D. in Humanities and an M.A. in Anthropology from Concordia University. She has had articles published in various academic journals on such topics as citizenship issues, political science, indigenous women's issues, and Haudenosaunee culture and traditions. In 2011, the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke appointed Dr. Horn-Miller as the Coordinator for the Kahnawà:ke Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC), which is the body that administers the Community Decision Making Process. She is the first person to hold this position as a full-time appointment.

Title: 3rd Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit National Indian Child Welfare Association
Date: **November 12th** **Location:** The Country Club at Soboba Springs, San Jacinto, CA

Come swing in support for American Indian and Alaska Native children and families! We are pleased to announce that the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians has generously agreed to be our 2012 NICWA Location Sponsor. For the past three years, their beautiful Soboba Springs Golf Course has been home to the PGA TOUR Nationwide Premier Event, The Soboba Golf Classic. The 3rd Annual NICWA Golf Tournament promises to showcase all that this beautiful PGA course has to offer, with the added benefit of supporting NICWA's services that help American Indian and Alaska Native children across the country. All proceeds to benefit NICWA.

Contact: Sarah Keefe PH: 503-222-4044 E: skeefe@nicwa.org

For more information see <http://www.nicwa.org/golf/>

Title: Roslindale Open Studios **Date:** **November 3 and 4**, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: over [40 locations](#) in beautiful Roslindale Village

Roslindale Open Studios is an exciting weekend event offering artists and the public a chance to connect with each other in a comfortable community setting. Local artists open the doors to their workplaces and homes; businesses and restaurants host shows and events; and we welcome out-of-town artists at a large Group Show in Roslindale Village. If you have an interest in the arts or fine crafts—whether as a serious collector or a curious admirer—you can meet our participants, learn about how and where they work, and purchase distinctive items at a fraction of gallery or retail costs. If you just want to look around and explore, that's great too. The goal of Roslindale Open Studios is to make art accessible, and to offer you a fun afternoon in our neighborhood. Want to know what all the 'Rozzie' buzz is about? Come for the day and find out. Shop with our sponsoring merchants, and eat at one of our great restaurants.

For more information see <http://www.roslindaleopenstudios.org/about.html>

Also, stop by Geraldine Barney's table, Navajo artist and musician! At her group site located at Sacred Heart School, 1035 Canterbury Street

For more information on Geraldine Barney, see her website: www.roslindaleopenstudios.org

Title: Ivy League & Friends Undergraduate and Graduate Choctaw Student Recruitment Event

Location: Durant, OK—Choctaw Resort

Date: Saturday **November 10, 2012** from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM CST

Register now for Ivy League & Friends Choctaw Student Recruitment Event! This year's event will take place Saturday, November 10th at the Choctaw Resort in Durant, OK. Please visit the link below to see attending institutions, tentative schedule, travel and lodging information, frequently asked questions, and to register for the event.

For more information regarding the events, visit <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=tryc8udab&oeidk=a07e63q0jsi9ac5f126>

The following are events of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum, Mashantucket, CT

For more information please visit <http://www.pequotmuseum.org/>

Title: Indian Hemp Harvest

Date: Saturday, Nov. 3, 10 am-12 noon

Join Senior Researcher Dr. Jason Mancini for the annual harvesting of Indian hemp, and see demonstrations of hemp fiber processing and twining. Limited to 30, ages 10 and older. \$10/\$5 Museum members. Register by Oct. 27: (800) 411-9671 or email seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov.

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**Title:** Boy Scout Indian Lore Merit Badge Workshop

**Date:** Saturdays, Nov. 3 & Nov. 17, 10 am-3 pm

We're offering two workshops for earning Indian Lore merit badges. Learn traditional crafts, games, and fun facts. Limited to 25 scouts, ages 11-18. Register online through the Connecticut Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America at [ctrivers.org](http://ctrivers.org).

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Title: Monthly Beading Circle

Date: Saturday Nov. 17, 1-3 pm

Bead with us once a month; bring completed projects for us to admire, continue a current project, or start a new one. Supplies provided or bring your own. Walk-ins welcome. Register: (800) 411-9671 or email seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov by Nov. 16. Limited to 20, ages 11 and older. \$15/\$10 Museum members.

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**Title:** Guided Tour of Doll Exhibit

**Date:** Saturday, Nov. 17, 2 pm

Join a 30-minute guided tour of the current exhibit in the Mashantucket Gallery, *Neetôpáwees: Dolls as Ambassadors of Native Culture*, and learn how the exhibit was created, from idea to reality. Limited to 20. Free with Museum admission, free to Museum members. Register by Nov. 16: (800) 411-9671 or email [seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov](mailto:seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov).

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Title: Celebrating the Harvest

Date: Friday & Saturday, Nov. 23 & 24, 9 am-5 pm

Join us for two days of honoring the harvest with food and fun. Celebrate wunnekeepunumooôk (good harvest) as Leah Hopkins (Niantic/Narragansett) demonstrates various traditional Native cooking methods on the Farmstead, 10 am-4 pm. Enjoy the smoky and savory smells of the food cooking over an open fire and learn about the many Native American thanksgivings. Hear how the modern Thanksgiving Day tradition evolved over time. Bid on great items in a silent auction and try other fun activities in the Gathering Space, including \$5 crafts for the entire family. Take free guided tours of the exhibits at 11 am & 1 pm.

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**Title:** Thanksgiving Dinner & Concert      **Date:** Friday & Saturday, Nov. 23 & 24, 4 pm

Make a new family tradition and join us for a Native-inspired gourmet dinner and concert in the restaurant. After eating, sit back and relax to the sounds of jazz saxophonist and recording artist Sharel Cassity (Cherokee) with piano accompaniment. \$65/\$50 Museum members. Register by Nov. 15: (800) 411-9671 or email [seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov](mailto:seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov).

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Title: Full-Moon Hikes in Pequot Country **Date:** Wednesday, Nov. 28, 7-8:30 pm

Join Senior Researcher Dr. Jason Mancini and Candyce Testa (Pequot) at the boat launch on River Road in Mystic to learn about the Pequot War and Indian whalers who traveled the world. Bring a snack, water, and a flashlight/headlamp or reflective clothing. Limited to 30, ages 10 and older. \$10/\$5 Museum members. Register by Nov. 23: (800) 411-9671 or email seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov.

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**Title:** Educators' Workshop: Go Green      **Date:** Saturday, Oct. 20, 10 am-4 pm

Join Director of Public Programs Kimberly Shockley (Pequot) to learn about environmental issues affecting today's classroom. Discuss *Through Our Eyes, An Indigenous View of Mashapaug Pond* with Loren Spears (Narragansett) and Dawn Dove (Narragansett). Senior Researcher Dr. Jason Mancini leads a tour of the Museum's Farmstead, focusing on the environment. Limited to 25 people. \$45/\$35 Museum members. Register by Oct. 13: (800) 411-9671 or email [seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov](mailto:seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov). .5 CT CEUs available.

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Title: Full-Moon Hikes in Pequot Country **Date:** Monday, Oct. 29, 7-8:30 pm

Join Senior Researcher Dr. Jason Mancini and Candyce Testa (Pequot) for a nighttime jaunt to Kate Swamp Road - a road originally laid out across Mashantucket in 1774 - to learn about the history of Native people. Bring a snack, water, and a flashlight/headlamp or reflective clothing. Limited to 30, ages 10 and older. \$10/\$5 Museum members. Register by Oct. 26: (800) 411-9671 or email seleazer@mptn-nsn.gov.