

Journal #2847 **from sdc** **5.8.13**

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Jack Malotte's famous mural on the wall of the gym at Duckwater

[Hundreds Of Mysterious Orbs Found Under Ancient Temple](#)

www.huffingtonpost.com

For centuries, Mexico's ancient city of Teotihuacan has concealed a mysterious secret, only recently revealed by the help of robots equipped with lasers and infrared cameras. The small, remote-controlled devices have explored several rooms beneath the Temple of the Feathered Serpent, a structure des...

[No longer neutral: Mining officially opposed to mine tax measure](#)

www.lasvegassun.com

The mining industry came out today in opposition to a plan to remove the industry's provisions in the state constitution. While the industry remained neutral with concerns during 2011 and during debate in the state Senate this year, they now emphatically oppose Senate Joint Resolution 15.

Water standoff between Nevada, Utah puts rancher in tough position

By HENRY BREAN LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL 5.5.13

In Snake Valley, the sun comes up in Utah and sets in Nevada.

The man in the middle has worked both sides of the line for more than 50 years.

Dean Baker moved to the valley 300 miles northeast of Las Vegas in 1959 to help run a ranch his father took on there a few years earlier.

The only town on the Nevada side already was called Baker when Dean and his dad got there, but it might as well be named for them.

By most accounts, Dean Baker and his three sons now control more private land and use more water than anyone else in Snake Valley.

Baker lives in Nevada, about three miles west of the border, but his ranching operations and his loyalties spill into Utah.

When the two states quietly launched talks almost a decade ago on how to share the valley's water, Baker served on Utah's negotiating team.

When Gov. Gary Herbert announced last month that Utah would not sign the finished agreement with Nevada, it set the stage for a cross-border fight over who controls water and where it should be allowed to go.

And there, smack in between, is Dean Baker.

LOSING HIS VOICE

The man in the middle can feel his mind slipping.

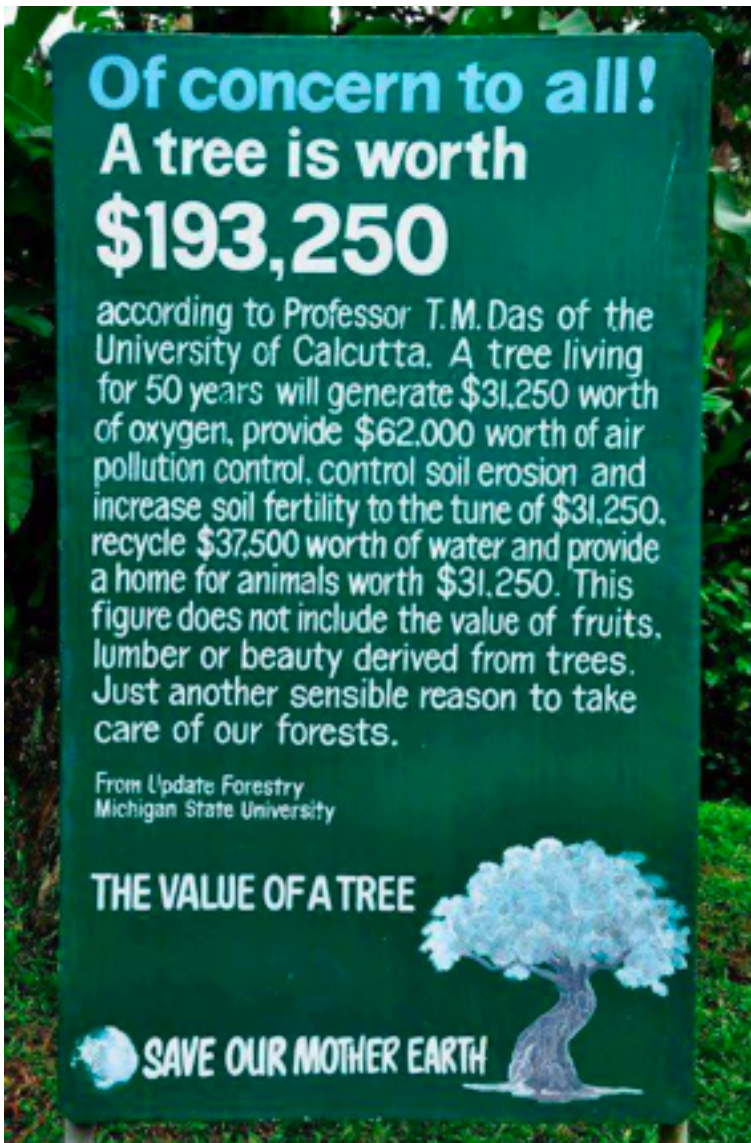
Alzheimer's, he thinks. He's been traveling to St. George, Utah, for tests.

Baker beat cancer eight years ago, but he is afraid he won't beat this, not forever. He already is handing off control of the ranch and other assets to his family to make things easier if his health deteriorates.

Sometimes he can't recall the names of people he has known forever. Or he hears names but can't connect them in his head to the people they belong to.

It's strange, the 73-year-old says. "I remember less and talk more."

But some things come back to him just fine. Oct. 17, 1989, for instance. That's when Las Vegas water officials launched a sweeping grab for unappropriated groundwater across rural Nevada, including Snake Valley.



“There are some things I still remember a lot. The Southern Nevada Water Authority thing I still remember,” he says.

Baker has spent much of the last 20 years attending meetings, writing letters, serving on committees and joining lawsuits in hopes of blocking the authority’s multibillion-dollar pipeline proposal.

He even registered as a lobbyist during the last two Nevada legislative sessions, though he hasn’t made as many trips to Carson City this time around.

Baker says he only went two or three times early in the session, mostly to hand out copies of a short DVD about Snake Valley to as many lawmakers as he could.

“It was only to fight Southern Nevada Water.”

Baker has been fighting that fight so long now that he has become the face of the opposition, his words and picture carried on the network

news and in newspapers across the United States and Europe. Many of the stories cast him as a folk hero, the humble rancher fighting to protect his spread from the insatiable thirst of Sin City.

But Baker insists he is not just looking out for himself. He is convinced the pipeline would be a disaster for everyone — ranchers, wildlife, ratepayers in Las Vegas, everyone. Billions of dollars, wasted on nothing.

“It will be such a big disaster to Las Vegas that it will be a disaster to the whole state,” he says.

What the authority wants simply isn’t there, certainly not in Snake Valley, Baker says. If it ever was, people like him pumped it from the ground long ago.

“Baker Ranch has killed at least a half dozen springs, and others have killed springs too,” the Utah native says. “It’s perfectly clear now that we’re mining water, and we really need to shut some of our pumps down.”

WRESTLING OVER WATER

When the man in the middle joined Utah’s negotiating team, Southern Nevada Water Authority officials were surprised and a little concerned. After all, what chance was there for a reasonable deal in Snake Valley with one of the authority’s biggest foes in the room?

But emotion and rhetoric never played a role in the discussions, says authority Deputy General Manager John Entsminger, who represented the agency’s interests as part of Nevada’s negotiating team. “Those talks were very professional and very cordial.”

The resulting deal, unveiled in August 2009, split the valley’s resources evenly between the two states, laying the groundwork for future development in a watershed large enough to swallow Delaware.

Nevada signed the document later that year. Utah never would.

Gov. Herbert finally made that official on April 3. He then summed up his position nicely in a Twitter post a week later: “Our message to Las Vegas: What flows into UT, stays in UT.”

Nevada officials are still mulling their next move. Some believe the fight over Snake Valley could land in the U.S. Supreme Court.

The standoff also threatens the fragile peace over the Colorado River, where Nevada, Utah and the five other river states are finally working together after decades of bitter fighting.

As water authority spokesman J.C. Davis puts it, “For one state to behave in this manner cannot help but have a chilling effect on that cooperative spirit.”

RARE COMMON GROUND

For once, the man in the middle and the water authority find themselves on the same side. Both wanted to see the water-sharing agreement signed.

Sure, there were things about the deal that Baker found “ridiculous.” For one thing, he says, it divvied up “huge amounts of water that don’t exist.”

But he supported it because he felt it protected his valley more than the existing water laws in either state ever could.

It’s a lonely stance to take in Snake Valley, where most residents fear such a deal would make it easier for Las Vegas to siphon groundwater from beneath their homes and Nevada’s own Great Basin National Park.

But Baker says his neighbors are still neighborly, even when they disagree with him.

“People have argued with me, and I have tried to explain why I felt the way I did. I have never been criticized by anyone.”

At one public meeting, Baker and another rancher went around and around about the interstate water agreement. After it was over, the old fellow came over, gave him a hug and said, “I hope one of us is right.”

That man was Cecil Garland from Callao, Utah, a wide spot in the road where northern Snake Valley empties into the Great Salt Lake Desert. The 87-year-old has plenty of unflattering things to say about the water authority and its pipeline plans, but he has no beef with Baker.

“I respect him. I don’t agree with him on parts of this thing, but I respect him,” Garland said. “Without Dean Baker and his boys, there wouldn’t be anything left in this valley. They stood their ground. They wouldn’t sell.”

STILL AT THE CONTROLS

The man in the middle mostly works alone these days, running an excavator or some other piece of equipment.

This is his version of retirement. The work is fun; it makes him feel useful. And when he gets tired, he can take a break without holding anyone up.

He also likes to get his airplane out now and again.

Baker has been flying since age 15. His first solo flight came at 16, and that led to work as a crop duster.

Later in life, when he became the voice of pipeline opposition, he would invite the occasional reporter to come see Snake Valley from the air, rolling his small plane from its hangar and taking off on one of the ranch’s long, straight dirt roads.

The tours would last as long as his passengers did. Baker would circle old springs pumped dry by farming until his fuel ran low or the reporter strapped in next to him started to turn green.

“Flying to me is safer and easier than it is to drive across the road,” he says.

But Baker doesn’t go up that much anymore, and he doesn’t take people with him when he does. “I don’t want to hurt anybody.”

The Bakers’ operation now includes more than 12,000 acres in Nevada and Utah, a single, family-owned corporation in control of what used to be a dozen separate ranches.

In addition to the cattle they raise, they tend fields that produce hundreds of truckloads of alfalfa each year.

Hay grown in Snake Valley feeds milk cows in California and horses in Las Vegas, Baker says. Some of it even crosses the Pacific Ocean to supply dairies in China.

Despite numerous offers and inquiries, including a few from Southern Nevada, Baker says he has never seriously considered selling his land, and neither has his family.

“What would we do if we just had a pile of money? A pile of money is a valueless thing in my opinion.”

Besides, their business is doing just fine; his sons have seen to that.

“They’re making more money with the ranch than I ever did,” Baker says with pride.

He hopes they find similar success some day when they inherit the water fight from him.

Until then, the man in the middle plans to keep fighting.

“I didn’t do this to get famous. I did it because I thought it was wrong for (Las Vegas) and wrong for us,” Baker says. “It’s just because I’m a bullheaded, opinionated old goat.”

Contact reporter Henry Brean at hbrean@reviewjournal.com or 702-383-0350.

For comments: <http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/water-environment/water-standoff-between-nevada-utah-puts-rancher-tough-position>

Water war between Klamath River farmers, tribes poised to erupt

New water rights have given tribes an upper hand over farmers just as the Klamath River basin plunges into a severe drought.

Tony Barboza, Los Angeles Times

For decades this rural basin has battled over the Klamath River's most precious resource: water that sustains fish, irrigates farms and powers the hydroelectric dams that block one of the largest salmon runs on the West Coast.

Honoring the River: How Hardrock Mining Impacts Tribal Communities

“Access to clean drinking water, clean air, and healthy fish and game are inherent human rights that no lawmaker can give away.”

04-25-2013 // Lacey McCormick

For more than a century, American Indian tribes and Alaska Natives have suffered the impacts of hardrock mining while enjoying few of its benefits.

A new National Wildlife Federation report, [*Honoring the River: How Hardrock Mining Impacts Tribal Communities*](#) tells the story of hardrock mining and tribes, from the checkered history of federal legislation allowing mining companies to lease minerals on tribal lands—often without tribal consent—to the many new mines being proposed near tribal communities.

“Access to clean drinking water, clean air, and healthy fish and game are inherent human rights that no lawmaker can give away,” said Mike Wiggins, chairman of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, whose land has been threatened by Gogebic Taconite’s proposed open-pit iron mine. “Some of the environmental impacts, like acid mine drainage, will last into perpetuity.”

[Listen to our press conference \(mp3\)](#)

The report was endorsed by the following tribes and tribal organizations impacted by hardrock mining: Alaska Inter-Tribal Council, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and the Sokaogon Chippewa Community.

Two loopholes in the regulations implementing the [Clean Water Act](#) have allowed mines to treat rivers, lakes and wetlands as waste dumps for toxic, acid-producing tailings. According to the report, the metals mining industry has already contaminated an estimated 40 percent of the headwaters in western watersheds.

That figure doesn’t surprise Rich Janssen, head of the Department of Natural Resources at the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes in northern Montana. These tribes have been working to help threatened bull trout recover from 100-year old mining and smelting operations. The tribes now find themselves fighting two proposed silver mines adjacent to the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness.

“Our tribes do not oppose all mining but we do take our stewardship commitment seriously,” said Janssen. “Nobody should be permitted to store untreated mining waste in rivers or streams. We strongly support closing the mining loopholes in the Clean Water Act.”

“The indigenous view on water is that it is a sacred and spiritual entity,” said Jessica Koski, mining technical assistant of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, which has been affected by Rio Tinto’s Eagle Mine operation. “Our communities have a historically intimate connection to water and we are especially sensitive to the impacts of mining on our sacred places and the waters that feed Lake Superior.”

Honoring the River discusses one of the nation’s worst mining disasters, the [Zortman-Landusky gold mine](#) near the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in north-central Montana. The mine is infamous for its cyanide spills and acid mine drainage—and the responsible company ultimately filed for bankruptcy, leaving the Fort Belknap tribes and taxpayers to pay millions in clean-up costs.

“A lot of people made money from the Zortman-Landusky mine, but we were not among them,” said Tracy King, president of the Fort Belknap Indian Community. “We were left with degraded cultural sites, smaller fish and wildlife populations, and a huge price tag for reclamation and water treatment. Tribal communities should be wary of the economic promises made by mining companies.”

The report also focuses on the controversial Pebble copper and gold mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska. The Pebble mine would be the largest open pit mine in North America and would be in the headwaters of the greatest remaining wild sockeye salmon fishery on earth. The Bristol Bay watershed sustains more than two dozen Alaska Native communities that have practiced a salmon-based culture for millennia.

“Tribes have been disproportionately harmed by hardrock mining and the pollution caused by mining waste,” said [Tony Turrini](#), senior attorney for National Wildlife Federation and one of the report’s authors. “We’re calling on the Obama Administration to close Clean Water Act loopholes that allow mines to store untreated waste in natural waters. Closing these loopholes won’t stop hardrock mining, but it would help protect tribal communities from the chemicals, heavy metals, and acid drainage produced by modern mines.”

“National Wildlife Federation has worked with tribes for more than 20 years to protect wildlife,” explains [Garrit Voggeser](#), national director of Tribal Partnerships for NWF. “Our current efforts to minimize the threats of hardrock mining exemplify how tribes and NWF can make a difference in our shared values for the protection of environmental and cultural resources.”

[Click here](#) to download the full report.

<http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/Media-Center/News-by-Topic/Wildlife/2013/04-25-13-Honoring-the-River-Press-Release.aspx>



[Video Trailer for DESERT DREAMS: Celebrating Five Seasons in the Sonoran Desert, a 52-minute film in vimeo.com](#)

[Without narration or people, DESERT DREAMS lets viewers experience the Sonoran Desert from the inside out. This immersive 52-minute production focuses on beauty...](#)

Washoe County School District

Every week, the WCSD sends out News Hub, a compilation of the very best stories involving our schools, our staff, and our students. To receive News Hub, simply sign up via the link below. It won't take long! <http://ow.ly/kLzaK>

(Note: Indians were not US Citizens until 1924, so were not subject to conscription during WWI; all service was voluntary. sdc)

Selective Service Act of 1917

The first military conscription in the United States occurred during the Civil War, but the military draft process we are familiar with today originated with the Selective Service Act of 1917, passed by Congress on **May 18, 1917**.

Six weeks earlier, the United States had declared war on Germany and it was soon apparent there were not enough men in the peacetime army (about 110,000) and not enough immediate volunteers. The Selective Service Act required that all men between ages 21 and 31 register for military service. In response, over ten million registered. Not everyone who registered was drafted as there were several exemptions based on dependents, economic hardship, and type of employment. And, as with any government-mandated conscription process, there were protests and rallies against it.

The biggest difference between the Civil War draft and the Selective Service Act of 1917 was that it did not allow for substitutes. Section 3 stated:

No person liable to military service shall hereafter be permitted or allowed to furnish a substitute for such service; nor shall any substitute be received, enlisted, or enrolled in the military service of the United States; and no such person shall be permitted to escape such service or to be discharged.

Ultimately, there were three registrations as a result of the act:

- June 5, 1917, for men 21 to 30 years old;
- June 5, 1918, for men who had turned 21 since the previous draft, also followed by a supplemental draft on August 24, 1918; and
- September 12, 1918, for men 18 to 45 years old.

When the armistice was signed on **November 11, 1918**, the need for a large army clearly diminished. By 1919, the role of a selective service agency was unnecessary, yet the system was resurrected over twenty years later through the Selective Training and Service Act (STSA) of 1940 as the United States stood on the brink of World War II.

Explore the [World War I](#) and [World War II](#) collections on Fold3, including [WWII "Old Man's Draft" Registration Cards](#).

Nevada Diabetes Association

In the battle against Type 1 NIH expands the reach of TrialNet. And if you see this page please remember to vote for us so we can win \$10000. Everyday in every way we are here to help until there is a cure. <http://tinyurl.com/NDA10000>

Type 1 diabetes network expands reach with online sign-up, nationwide testing

www.nih.gov

[People with a family history of type 1 diabetes can now conveniently participate in free screening to help find ways to delay or prevent the disease, even if they live far from a study site. This alternative to site-based initial screening comes as modern technology enables more secure online regist...](#)

Mother's Day, Father's Day comin' up. Instead of the usual, bring Mom or Pop to Tuscarora for the **Memory to Memoir** workshop. Some things shouldn't be put off. Go to Tuscarora-Writers-retreats.com for info. (P.S. You'll have a memorable weekend together.)

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Jun 15 - Jun 17 | Creativity Workshop |
| Jun 29 - Jun 30 | Memory to Memoir |
| Sep 14 - Sep 15 | Tuscarora Writers Retreat |

This two-day writing workshop in my home, the Adobe House, in [historic Tuscarora](#), Nevada, is about saving your best stories before they are lost or forgotten. Experienced or inexperienced writers will gain techniques for getting started on compiling family histories or composing their recollections of people, places, and events. Our stories should be saved for ourselves, our families, and our rural communities.

“The key to getting you story down is simple: Scribble. Just start and don’t stop. The big mistake most people make is they get hung up trying to start at the beginning, and only God can do that.”
Frank McCourt, author of Angela’s Ashes

Energy Updates

German PV drops to 15 cents max - News - Renewables International

bit.ly

Germany's Network Agency has announced that feed-in tariffs for solar will be reduced by 1.8 percent each month over the next three months because the country continues to install more solar than the target corridor allows. Nonetheless, the reductions themselves are actually lower because the market...

Eos Energy Storage Launches 1st Pilot Project With Con Edison

cleantechnica.com

[caption id=

Energy Democracy TV - free crowdpublished magazine app

www.indiegogo.com

[Renewable Energy gives us the opportunity to democratize our energy system. Join the movement by contributing your content, your network or your cash!](#)

Fracking Study Extension

The EPA is giving the public more time to submit information that the agency should consider in its study of how hydraulic fracturing affects drinking water resources. The [deadline has been extended more than six months](#), to November 15.

If you drive your car/truck/van in Reno or Sparks throughout May..... pls fill up your gas tanks at one one of the following stations.. (if you do.. a percentage of \$\$ from each pump comes to help abused, abandoned, neglected kids in foster care have opportunities to be creative!!!!) ...

pls pass this on to your friends, post on your lists, share in religious congregation newsletters and business email blasts, etc...

1) Lakeside - Lakeside and Plumb... 2) Valley Services - California and Booth, 3) Northwest - on 7th (right off Keystone) 4) Sierra Car Care - Prater and Pyramid, and 5) Mill Street Tires 3180 Mill Street)... we thank Sierra Car Care for this incredibly generous project! Joe Galata

For those needing a one-stop shop to follow healthcare policy, this is the best. sdc

Kaiser Family Foundation Launches All New Kff.org

Website Features New Search, Integration of Content by Key Topics, Design for Mobile Devices

Website Advances Technical Capabilities of Popular WordPress Platform

Menlo Park, CA – The Kaiser Family Foundation today announced the launch of an all new [kff.org](#), the Foundation’s popular web destination for its health policy information. The new kff.org has been designed to fit the way people currently access and consume online information, and is built on an open-source platform that can rapidly evolve to incorporate the latest advances in online communication.

In redesigning [kff.org](#), the Foundation consolidated five websites and gateways developed over the last decade to provide a single point of entry to the Foundation’s diverse information resources. (The foundation will maintain a [separate site](#) for Kaiser Health News (KHN), its nonprofit health news service.) The new [kff.org](#) will provide a streamlined experience centered around 10 major health policy topics, with content continually updated on the home page, topic pages and throughout the site to reflect both current health policy issues as well as the Foundation’s latest resources. All content on a topic – whether a fact sheet, poll, slide, data table, video or infographic or KHN news report – will be integrated for one-stop viewing.

Developed in partnership with WordPress.com VIP, the website showcases a new faceted search engine, developed specifically for kff.org, which provides a shopping-like experience to users who can refine searches by attributes like date, topics, tags, and type of content. The site also utilizes the latest techniques to optimize viewing on tablets and smartphones. Users of the new

website will be able to access graphics, information and data from the newest Kaiser reports more easily thanks to a newly designed [format](#) no longer constrained by PDFs that is easy to read and interact with on all devices.

“The Kaiser Family Foundation always strives to provide the best information on health policy issues,” said KFF President and Chief Executive Officer Drew Altman. “The new [kff.org](#) puts our online information together in a much simpler and more engaging way for the many audiences who rely on us every day.”

“We’re very excited to have the Kaiser Family Foundation’s newly redesigned site on WordPress.com VIP, delivering a great experience on the desktop web, tablet, and mobile. Kff.org breaks new ground in bringing faceted search to a WordPress site, powered by VIP-hosted Elasticsearch. I’m impressed with KFF’s commitments and contributions to open source, and looking forward to their continued involvement with these communities,” said Raanan Bar-Cohen, Senior Vice President at Automattic.

Using an innovative custom plug-in for WordPress, [kff.org](#) users can now interact with [state](#) and [global](#) data tables, maps, and trend graphs on health issues (previously found on [statehealthfacts.org](#) and [globalhealthfacts.org](#)) alongside related fact sheets, briefs and reports, rather than needing to visit separate Foundation sites to find different types of information on the same topic.

Many existing resources have been refreshed for the new platform, including [quizzes](#), [timelines](#), [slides](#) and other [interactive tools](#). Slideshows and chartpacks from new [Kaiser polls](#) have gone social and can be shared using an embeddable viewer from [Slideshare](#), providing a wider audience with easy access to the Foundation’s resources.

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The Kaiser Family Foundation, a leader in health policy analysis, health journalism and communication, is dedicated to filling the need for trusted, independent information on the major health issues facing our nation and its people. The Foundation is a non-profit private operating foundation, based in Menlo Park, California.

Automattic offers a network of web services for online publishers including WordPress.com, VIP hosting and support, VaultPress, Akismet, VideoPress, Jetpack, Simplenote, Gravatar, and more. The Automattic network attracts over 650 million worldwide unique visitors every month.