

Journal #2948

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9.26.13

Thomas Edison's invention was not a light bulb

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EPA chief tells what coal will have to do to survive in a "carbon-constrained" future

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Great Basin Writing Project

NGOs no longer set the agenda for development, say CEO's

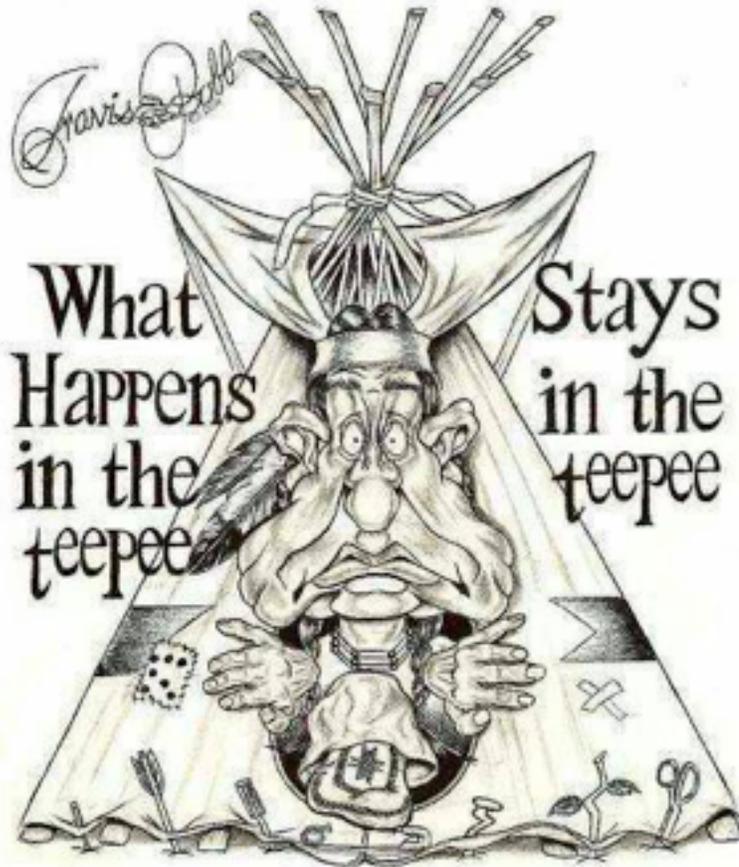
Study Suggests Link Between Alzheimer's and Periodontitis

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NCET Reminder



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from delanceyplace:

In today's selection -- from *The Age of Edison* by Ernest Freeberg.

Thomas Edison's invention was not a light bulb -- others had patented light bulbs before him -- but an entire system: a reliable and efficient electricity generator, wires to distribute that electricity over long distances, and reasonably long-lasting light bulbs at the end of those wires. And once they became available, American cities, much more than their European counterparts, clamored for these systems almost as a sign of progress and a matter of civic pride. Yet there were obstacles -- first, a competitive counterattack from the large and well-entrenched gas companies whose gas lamps already provided these cities with a less-bright but less expensive form of lighting.

And second, the danger and unsightliness of the power lines themselves -- which would have to be added overhead to streets already clogged with telegraph and telephone lines:

"When the Brush Company, [an Edison predecessor and competitor] first demonstrated the arc [electric] light in a downtown Cincinnati square [in 1878], the event spread panic among local investors, forcing [Cincinnati Gas Company vice president Andrew] Hickenlooper to use his own fortune to shore up the price of his company's stock.

Months later, when Edison made his premature announcement that he had solved the 'puzzler' of incandescent lighting, the intrepid Hickenlooper once again donned a disguise, traveling to New York to impersonate a stock speculator so that he could investigate the matter firsthand. Returning to Cincinnati, he assured investors that the quest for a viable incandescent lamp was an old story and that Edison offered nothing new. At the time, this evaluation was as true as it was self-serving. He hedged his bet, however, by working to expand the market for gas in fields aside from lighting -- a strategy that would in the end save the gas companies from utter destruction. He hired Miss Dodds, recent graduate from a Boston culinary school, to give public demonstrations on the advantages of cooking with 'gaseous fuels.'

"Following Hickenlooper's lead, gas companies around the country fought back against electricity by consolidating their operations, lowering prices, and introducing new, more efficient technologies. They also called in favors from their political allies, ran special deals during 'gas lighting week' each spring, and kept up a steady drumbeat of propaganda about the dangers of electricity. 'Wide-awake' gas men assured each other that the recent boom for electricity was just a passing fad and that they were bound in the end to win the struggle between 'the gas meter and the dynamo.' Through all this, Hickenlooper continued to insist that if the city fathers granted

contracts to rival lighting companies, both gas and electric, this would introduce chaos in the marketplace, ruinous competition that would ultimately produce higher prices and worse service. In the parlance of the economic debates of his day, Hickenlooper insisted that public lighting was a 'natural monopoly,' and that it should be his.

"A more immediate argument against electric lights came not from chaos in the markets but chaos in the streets, where rival arclight companies began to weave a thick web of poorly insulated high-tension wires overhead. Eager for more light, and sometimes private kickbacks, city politicians granted franchises to the various electric companies with no attempt to impose order or even minimal safety standards. And in a number of cities, hastily organized companies wasted no time asking anyone's permission.

They just tacked their wires on whatever poles and building facings served their purpose, sometimes taking a cost-saving shortcut directly over some poor homeowner's roof.

"The electric companies strung these high-tension wires along streets already thick with wires for telephone, telegraph, fire and police alarms, and stock tickers. In dense urban intersections a pole might carry as many as two hundred different wires. Those lines were unsightly, but used a moderate current that posed no danger.

All this changed when electric companies added their powerful and poorly insulated high-pressure arc wires to the mix. Hastily tacked up, these often broke loose and fell across the web of other wires overhead. Traffic stopped and crowds gathered as wires burned and sparked, sometimes flailing like 'fiery serpents.' In the 1880s, city residents often enjoyed these 'free fireworks displays,' but sometimes the results proved more serious. Once in contact with broken or sagging arc wires, harmless telegraph, fire alarm, and telephone wires delivered awful, even deadly shocks.

At other times they burned and melted, causing numerous fires. The firemen who came to the rescue faced not only the risk of the blaze but also the danger of electrocution.

During a serious fire in St. Louis, for example, firemen found themselves unable to retreat from a wall about to collapse, since they felt hemmed in by the deadly wires. The crackle of exploding wires spooked their horses, and at one point their ladder truck became so 'completely charged from fallen wires' that none dared approach it. Electric light companies delivered on their promise to avoid the dangers of burning gas, but only by introducing some nasty hazards of their own.

The drawing on left is New York City in the 1800s when the protocols and current standards where still being developed. The photo on the right is the same street 10 years later. *(didn't copy)*

"For late-nineteenth-century city dwellers, the sky overhead became increasingly ominous, thick with wires that might pour down a man-made lightning bolt without warning. 'The overhead system,' one medical journal declared, 'is a standing menace to health and life.' Every week the papers ran stories of this very modern form of sudden death.

A Memphis man tied his mule to an iron lamppost that had been accidentally electrified; the powerful current knocked the screaming mule off its feet, and when its owner came to the rescue he leaned against the post himself and was instantly killed. An Italian fruit vendor in Greenwich Village slipped while cleaning the roof of his shop, touching one of the dozens of electric wires converging there. He probably died instantly, but a horrified crowd gathered to watch his corpse sizzle, as long flames shot from a wire lying across his neck. Fearing their own electrocution, the police dared not go near until an electrician arrived to cut down the wires. A pole painter in Massachusetts slipped, grabbed the nearest wire with both hands, and found himself in the throes of eight hundred volts; only the heroic action of his partner saved his life, though his hands were horribly burned.

Children playing in the streets fell victim quite often, as they enjoyed the sport of reaching for dangling wires or climbing on street poles. The old wires just tingled, but the new ones killed."

The Age of Edison: Electric Light and the Invention of Modern America (Penguin History American Life) by Ernest Freeberg by Penguin Press HC, The Date: Copyright 2013 Pages: 79-81

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[Ko'ona Cochrane, Jingle Dress Healing Dance - Portage & Main, Saturday Oct 12, 2013, 10am](#)

PLEASE READ PAGE, CLICK LIKE, PASS ON TO YOUR FRIENDS. 'Welcoming the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, James Anaya, with a Jingle Dress Healing Dance' Oct 12 at 10 a.m.

Federal Water Tap

Expand the Scope

In addition to recognized goals of hydropower production and flood control, a new Columbia River Treaty with Canada should protect salmon, according to [draft recommendations](#) from stakeholders in the Pacific Northwest. A “modernized” treaty should increase summer flows, allow flexibility to adapt to climate change, and consider dam modifications that allow fish access to the mainstem of the Columbia in Canada. The treaty can be cancelled, extended, or amended in 2024 with 10 years notice, thus the present discussions. Comments on the draft are being accepted through October 25 via [this link](#).

Colorado River Study

The Bureau of Reclamation will collaborate with a ten-tribe partnership to study [water supply issues affecting tribes in the Colorado River Basin](#). The study will be “separate but parallel” to [three working groups](#) that will provide recommendations for agriculture, cities, and the environment, said Carly Jerla, a program manager for the Bureau's [Colorado River Basin study](#). Jerla told Circle of Blue that the scope of the tribal study is not final but it could include: projections for tribal development, water demand projections, and ways to better develop water rights held by the tribes.

Water Definition

Which bodies of water does the Clean Water Act cover? That question, one of “connectivity” between applicable water bodies and fringe candidates such as ponds and isolated wetlands, has been kicking around for several years after an inconclusive U.S. Supreme Court decision in

2006. Now, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released a 331-page draft report to address the jurisdictional debate. The [report comes to three conclusions](#):

- 1) Streams, regardless of how often or frequently they flow, are always connected to downstream waters.
- 2) Wetlands in riparian areas or floodplains – those with a “bidirectional” flow between river and wetland – are connected to downstream waters.
- 3) “Unidirectional” wetlands in which water may only flow to a river and not vice versa are a diverse group about which general assumptions about connectivity are difficult. This group may be evaluated through “case-by-case analysis,” according to the report.



The draft report is open to public review through November 6. Send comments to Docket_OEI@epa.gov with the subject line “No. EPA-HQ-OA-2013-0582.” The EPA’s [science advisory board](#) will review the report and the comments in public meetings December 16 to 18 in Washington, D.C.

NAWQA Science Plan

The third decade of the National Water-Quality Assessment Program will focus on a vast range of monitoring tools for rivers, streams, and groundwater, according to [the program’s science plan](#) released by the U.S. Geological Survey.

A main goal is to track changes in water quality over time and attribute causes, either natural or manmade. For surface water, the plan envisions a national network that assesses water quality in real time. Increasing the number of monitoring stations, which dropped by nearly 80 percent since the program began in 1991, will be a primary task. For groundwater, large aquifers and wells that supply public water systems will be emphasized.

Flood Insurance

The federal flood insurance program is [\\$US 24 billion in the red](#), largely because of payouts related to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and Hurricane Sandy in 2012, according to Alicia Puente Cackley of the U.S. Government Accountability Office who testified before a Senate subcommittee last week.

Congress passed legislation last year to reform the National Flood Insurance Program. A number of these reforms are being implemented by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which manages the insurance program, but the GAO says that the agency does not have enough information about properties to set rates that reflect the true flood risk.

Flood Protection

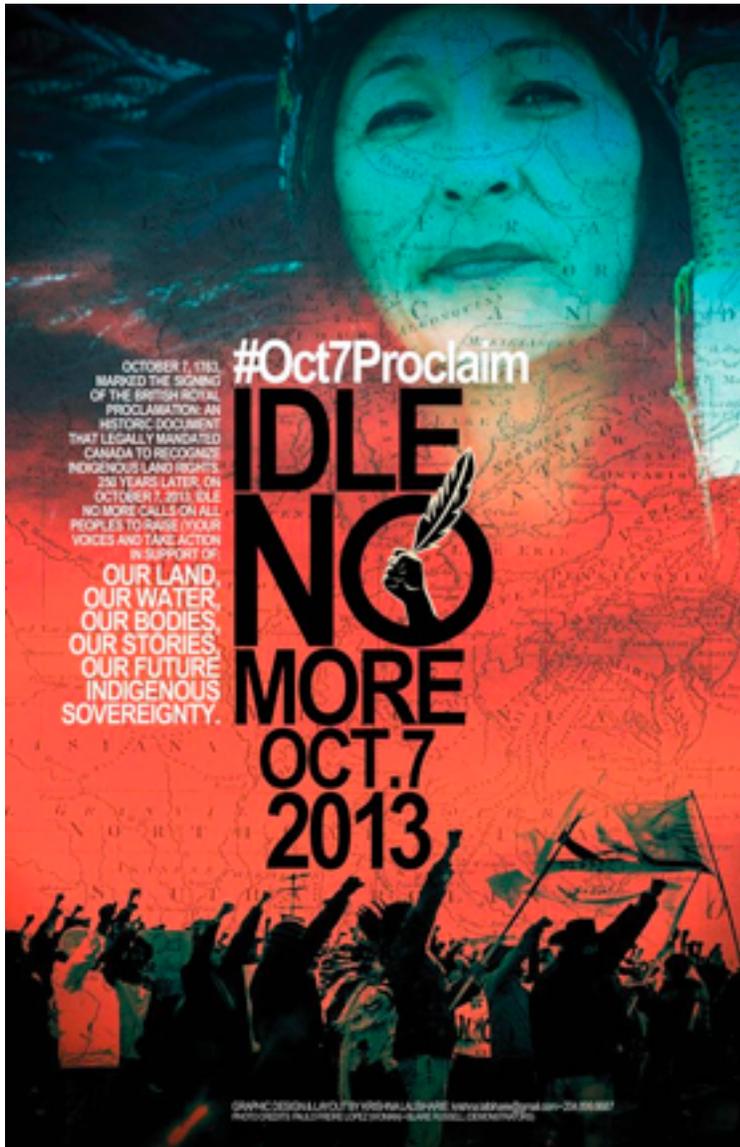
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed off on modifications to a \$US 1.8 billion project in North Dakota to [divert flood waters around the Fargo-Moorhead area](#).

Endangered Species

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service added an aquatic species to the endangered list: the [Neosho mucket](#), a freshwater mussel found in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

A second species is getting another look. After a petition for inclusion, a federal denial, and a lawsuit by the Center for Biological Diversity, the National Marine Fisheries Service has now determined that the Alabama shad, an anadromous fish, may warrant a spot on the list. The

agency is soliciting relevant scientific information about the shad. Submit by November 18 via fax, 727-824-5309. Submissions should be addressed to “Kelly Shotts, Ecologist” and include the code NOAA-NMFS_2013-0142.



Groundwater Pumping

Researchers at the U.S. Geological Survey developed a model for better understanding [how groundwater pumping in Arizona and California affects return flows](#) to the river. The model will be used to improve water accounting methods along the Colorado.

Water Storage

A company in the United Kingdom is looking to [use old mine quarries as basins for water pumping stations that could act as batteries](#) storing renewable energy, *Bloomberg News* reported. Water pumped uphill from one basin to another by solar and wind power could later be released downhill to provide energy.

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[#Oct7Proclaim](#) Plan an event for Oct 7! Please share the poster. Visit the website [www.idlenomore.ca](http://www.idlenomore.ca) for more info and to download a poster without text that you can use for your local events.

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worth the read.....

**EPA chief tells Grist what coal will have to do to survive in a “carbon-constrained” future**  
**By Lisa Hymas and Chip Giller**

[http://grist.org/climate-energy/epa-chief-tells-grist-what-coal-will-have-to-do-to-survive-in-a-carbon-constrained-future/?utm\\_campaign=](http://grist.org/climate-energy/epa-chief-tells-grist-what-coal-will-have-to-do-to-survive-in-a-carbon-constrained-future/?utm_campaign=)

**First Person: Kevin Gover, Director, National Museum of the American Indian**

[www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)

[The director of the National Museum of the American Indian weighs in on stereotypes and the R-word](#)

*Now look what you can do with Alka Seltzer. Clean a toilet. Drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets, wait twenty minutes, brush and flush. The citric acid and effervescent action clean vitreous china. Clean a vase. To remove a stain from the bottom of a glass vase or cruet, fill with water and drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets. Polish jewelry. Drop two Alka-Seltzer tablets into a glass of water and immerse the jewelry for two minutes. Clean a thermos bottle. Fill the bottle with water, drop in four Alka-Seltzer tablets, and let soak for an hour (or longer, if necessary). Unclog a drain. Clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka-Seltzer tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Heinz White Vinegar. Wait a few minutes, then run the hot water.*

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**Science news and reports: Climatologist Bill Patzert on California climate and water, plus Knagg’s Ranch, Happy World Water Monitoring Day, tamarisk removal and more**

Maven, Maven’s Notebook

Patzert, the “Prophet of California Climate,” weighs in on climate change, California water management and more: The JPL climatologist must have been in a talkative mood as a Q&A meant to be about climate change and water supply ends up being much more. The interview is filled with gems, like this: ” ... *The biggest change is not a global warming-related increase in temperature. The biggest change stems from the extreme makeover we’ve done in California. In L.A., the average temperature has changed more than 5 degrees Fahrenheit in the last 150 years. And let’s compare that with the 1.6 global. The average temperature in the San Joaquin Valley has changed more than 5 degrees since 1950. Why is that? It’s called urban agricultural heat islands. The San Joaquin Valley makes up a third of California. And before the California Water Project—where we irrigated the whole San Joaquin Valley with the California Aqueduct—the average rainfall there was 5 inches a year. Now it’s irrigated from east to west, north to south. It’s the breadbasket of the United States. It’s responsible for 55 percent of the state’s economy. But when you take a desert, which the San Joaquin essentially is, and you make it wet, it starts to absorb heat. So now dangerous heat impacts are common in the San Joaquin Valley. Heat waves are longer; they’re more intense, they’re more frequent. So the direct impact of the population explosion and extensive development has had a bigger impact than global warming. ...* “ Read more from Los Angeles Magazine here: [The Prophet of California Climate: A Dialogue With Bill Patzert](#)

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**Great Basin Writing Project**

kenvtv.com

Great Basin Writing Project - The Great Basin Writing Project is seeking local writers to collect rural Nevada expressions during a series of free writing workshops. "High Desert Voices," will

include brainstorming and guided writing over the next six weeks. Hadley Noren is heading up the effort tha...

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**NGOs no longer set the agenda for development, say CEOs**

gu.com

Survey reveals 84% of businesses want to do more to shape development, meaning it is time for NGOs to up their game

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**Study Suggests Link Between Alzheimer's and Periodontitis**

**www.dimensionsofdentalhygiene.com**

Dimensions of Dental Hygiene is a monthly, peer reviewed journal that reconnects practicing dental hygienists with the nation's leading educators and researchers

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**Grassroots Book (Grove Street Reno)**

**September 25 - September 29 ~ 8,000+ books—all at 99¢  
2,000+ kids books (up to grade level 6) at 25¢**

A huge selection of hardcovers and paperbacks in fiction, non-fiction, and YA—plus select audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, and VHS. We add new arrivals every day through Saturday afternoon.

The warehouse entrance is located inside the store: go past the counter and through the kids room, take a left, and head through the door. You'll see rows of tables with thousands of books. When the weather is nice, some pallets of books will be in the parking lot.

*Please leave store books at the check-out counter before going into the warehouse.*

**\$4.99 Bag Sale on Sunday, September 29 from 9am-5pm (open until 8pm)**

Bring shopping bags—paper, plastic, or reusable—and fill them with used books you pick from the warehouse sale for just \$4.99 per bag.

- No limit
- You can provide your own grocery bags (standard size: paper, plastic or reusable) or use ours (please donate!)
- Oversize bags cost extra
- No need to carry the bags to check out—use the central "hold" carts\*

At 5pm on Sunday, after the Bag Sale, remaining used books are free for teachers, nonprofits, quasi-nonprofits, home-schoolers, librarians etc.—just show an ID to a team member. Almost all of the kids books get picked up, but we paper recycle 2000+ paperbacks and hardcovers. We'd love for someone to pick up books for troops, hospitals, churches etc. Even for art!

*\*Bag sale etiquette: please do not set aside boxes for yourself and tell others not to look until you are done (unless you are planning to purchase all of the books in the box). Be considerate of your fellow shoppers, no hoarding! Thank you for understanding.*

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<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2013/09/the-power-of-sugar/279742/>

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## [Somber Tone on Cherokee Tribal Land - Veronicas Grandfather Still Hospitalized](#)

[www.nativenewsnetwork.com](http://www.nativenewsnetwork.com)

[TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA Last evening as the sun set behind the Jack Brown House which is situated on tribal land, a long shadow dark shadow was cast over the Cherokee Nation. The bright warming light of](#)

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## [Bucky Harjo](#)

*Older Than America another good Native movie on Netflix.....*

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## **NCET Reminder**

**Free to attend** - The 2013 NCET Expo is just two days away, so [register now](#) and save time when you arrive.

**1,000 attendees** - The NCET Expo offers a world-class networking opportunity with 1,000 small business owners, entrepreneurs, investors, community leaders, educators and many, many more!

**100+ exhibitors**- Besides all of the products and services you need, our exhibitors also offer help and advice designed to help you start or grow YOUR business. You can see a complete list of the exciting exhibitors below.

**8 educational sessions** - The 2013 NCET Expo offers eight different Educational Workshops with separate tracks providing in-depth looks at financing sources and low-cost, high-impact marketing. We also have sessions focused on health care, business plans and a special "Ask the Experts" session. You can see the complete list of session, topics and speakers [here](#).

NCET Expo attendees are invited to also attend the ISVCon's Friday educational sessions in Atlantis' Paradise D Ballroom at no charge! You can find more information at [www.isvcon.org](http://www.isvcon.org).

## **2013 NCET Expo Exhibitors**

[1 Million Cups Reno](#)

[ActionCOACH](#)

[American Economic Empowerment](#)

[Atlantis Casino Resort Spa](#)

[Biggest Little Group](#)

[Bosma Group, P.C.](#)

[BuyNevadaFirst.com](#)

[CDMS](#)

[Club Care](#)

[Constant Contact](#)

[Crexendo](#)

[Discount Printing Company](#)

[Digiprint Corporation](#)

[Entrepreneurs Assembly](#)

[Evans, Nelson & Company, CPAs](#)

[Front Office Staff](#)

[Heritage Bank of Nevada](#)

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[Bosma Business Center](#)

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[Charter Business](#)

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[The LIBRE Initiative](#)  
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[Truckee Meadows Community College High School](#)  
[UBS Financial Services](#)  
[University of Nevada, Reno College of Business](#)  
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[Nevada Small Business Development Center](#)  
[Northern Nevada Business Weekly](#)  
[Northern Nevada International Center](#)  
[Out&About Marketing](#)  
[Plexus Slim, Jim Forbus](#)  
[Pyramid Business Services, Inc.](#)  
[Reno Gazette-Journal](#)  
[Secretary of State Ross Miller's Office](#)  
[Skybox Cloud LLC](#)  
[The Chamber](#)  
[The WebSmith Group](#)  
[Truckee Meadows Community College Eclub](#)  
[U.S. Small Business Administration](#)  
[United Federal Credit Union](#)  
[University of Nevada, Reno Extended Studies](#)  
[Upromise Investments](#)  
[Veterans Guest House](#)  
[WestStar Credit Union](#)

### **Professional Organizations**

[American Advertising Federation - Reno](#)  
[American Society for Training & Development](#)  
[International Coach Federation - Nevada Chapter](#)  
[Northern Nevada Human Resources Association](#)  
[Northern Nevada Software Developers Group](#)  
[Public Relations Society of America, Sierra Nevada Chapter](#)  
[Reno Area Chapter IMA](#)

[American Business Women's Association](#)  
[AIGA Reno Tahoe](#)  
[Professional Saleswomen of Nevada](#)  
[Reno-Tahoe American Marketing Association \(Reno AMA\)](#)