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More News from IMLS

Chipping Away at It

With a Native American Library Enhancement grant from IMLS, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Library created an online display of their public collections, including photos, documents, audio, and artifacts. [Read More](#)

Digital Inclusion: Whose Job Is It?

WebJunction launched the infographic, "The Internet Is Important To Everyone," to bring attention to the impact broadband has on our lives and offer actions our communities can take. [Read More](#)

Kindergarteners' Visitation to Libraries and Museums

IMLS analyst Deanne Swan looks at a Department of Education study to learn about children who are benefitting from visits to museums and libraries, and those who are not. [Read More](#)

[Youth Service America: Disney Friends for Change - Latin America Grants](#)

Disney Friends for Change - Latin America Grants offer young change-makers an opportunity to receive a grant to help make a lasting, positive change in the world. Click above to learn more about the funding guidelines and application process.

[National Institutes of Health: National Institute on Drug Abuse National Early Warning System \(NEWS\) Coordinating Center](#)

This program provides support for a Center to support novel data acquisition strategies, data harmonization, analysis, and dissemination activities on emerging and current drug abuse trends across selected communities. Click above to learn more about the funding guidelines and

application process.

GrantStation

National Funding

Support for Organizations Assisting Low-Income Communities

The Kresge Foundation: Human Services Program

The Kresge Foundation works to improve the life circumstances of poor and low-income children and adults and those living in underserved communities. Through the Human Services Program, the Foundation seeks to expand opportunities for vulnerable, low-income individuals and families by strengthening nonprofit organizations and generating new knowledge about efforts to ameliorate and create pathways out of poverty. One of the program's focus areas, "[Advancing the effectiveness and resilience of multiservice organizations](#)," provides grants to help human services organizations demonstrate the ways promising approaches can add capacity, enhance performance, and increase resilience. Preference is given to nonprofit organizations and government agencies that have documented program success in moving people out of poverty, work with the potential to inform national policy, and have annual budgets of \$1 million to \$10 million. (Applied research projects that address the organizational effectiveness of direct human service are also supported.) Preliminary applications may be submitted throughout the year. Visit the Foundation's [website](#) for more information.

Grants Promote the Welfare of Shelter Dogs and Cats

Maddie's Fund

Maddie's Fund grants are designed to help build and sustain a no-kill nation so shelter dogs and cats can be guaranteed a loving home. Maddie's Fund offers the following programs: Grants are provided to U.S. Colleges of Veterinary Medicine seeking to establish shelter medicine programs that support the no-kill philosophy. Support is available for the development and implementation of shelter medicine programs that will ultimately improve the quality of shelter pets' lives, reduce shelter deaths, increase the adoption of shelter animals, and lay the foundation for saving all treatable shelter pets. Lifesaving Awards are designed to acknowledge the outstanding contributions being made by coalitions in strategic communities consisting of Traditional Shelters, Adoption Guarantee organizations, and Animal Control agencies that have achieved and sustained no-kill status for at least two years. Medical Equipment grants are offered to adoption guarantee shelters that are located in the U.S. and employ at least one full-time veterinarian. Support is available for the purchase of new medical equipment to benefit the animals in their care. In addition, Maddie's Fund offers targeted grants for San Francisco Bay Area organizations and pre-selected communities. For more information about the Fund's grant opportunities, visit www.maddiesfund.org or email grants@maddiesfund.org.

Hiking Trail Projects Supported

American Hiking Society: National Trails Fund

The National Trails Fund, sponsored by American Hiking Society (AHS), provides support to grassroots [nonprofit organizations](#) throughout the country working toward establishing, protecting, and maintaining foot trails in America. The Fund's grants, ranging from \$500 to \$5,000, help give local groups the resources they need to secure access, volunteers, tools, and

materials to protect America's public trails. Grants will be considered for the following: projects that have hikers as the primary constituency; projects that secure trail lands, including acquisition of trails and trail corridors and the costs associated with acquiring conservation easements; projects that will result in substantial ease of access, improved hiker safety, and/or avoidance of environmental damage; and projects that promote constituency building surrounding specific trail projects. Applying organizations must be AHS Alliance Members. Online applications may be submitted from November 1 to December 13, 2013. Visit the American Hiking Society website for application guidelines as well as information on becoming an AHS Member.

Child-Centered Garden Programs Funded

National Gardening Association: Youth Garden Grants

The National Gardening Association (NGA), awards Youth Garden Grants to schools and community organizations throughout the U.S. with child-centered garden programs. Applicant schools and organizations must plan to garden with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18. Twenty programs will receive a \$500 gift certificate to the Gardening with Kids online store. Each program will also receive a tool package from Ames, plant starts from Bonnie Plants, and a seed donation from High Mowing Seeds. The selection of winners is based on the demonstrated relationship between the garden program and education related to the environment, health and nutrition issues, character education, and entrepreneurship in the United States. The application deadline is December 6, 2013. Application guidelines and forms are available on the NGA website.

Regional Funding

Funds for Native Youth Fitness and Nutrition Programs

The Notah Begay III Foundation: Promising Program Grants

The Notah Begay III Foundation's Promising Program Grants initiative will partner with Native communities to strengthen existing youth-focused physical activity and/or healthy nutrition programs as well as build capacity for program evaluation. Preference will be given to organizations from the Southwest (Arizona, New Mexico), the Upper Midwest (Minnesota, Wisconsin), and the Southern Plains (Oklahoma, Texas); however, applications will be accepted from throughout the U.S. Recipients of these grants should be currently implementing programs for youth that increase physical activity and get kids moving while providing a safe place to play, and/or healthy nutrition programs that can include nutrition education and increasing access to healthy and affordable foods. Grants of up to \$40,000 will be awarded. U.S. based Native American-controlled nonprofit organizations, tribal governments, and Native American community-based groups with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor are eligible to apply. The application deadline is October 28, 2013. Visit the Foundation's website to download the Request for Proposals.

Grants Promote Sustainable Development in Bank Communities

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: Environmental Solutions for Communities

Environmental Solutions for Communities, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and sponsored by Wells Fargo, supports highly-visible projects that link economic development and community well-being to the stewardship and health of the environment. The focus is on projects that promote a sustainable future for communities by supporting sustainable

agricultural practices and private lands stewardship; conserving critical land and water resources and improving local water quality; restoring and managing natural habitat, species, and ecosystems that are important to community livelihoods; facilitating investments in green infrastructure, renewable energy, and energy efficiency; and encouraging broad-based citizen participation and targeted youth participation in project implementation. Nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and state, tribal, or local governments in selected regions and states where Wells Fargo operates are eligible to apply. Grants generally range from \$25,000 to \$100,000, with an average grant amount of \$40,000. The proposal deadline is December 16, 2013. Visit the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation website to learn more about the program and submit an online proposal.

Support for Youth Education Initiatives in Alabama [**The Malone Family Foundation**](#)

The mission of the Malone Family Foundation is to promote positive changes in the lives of people, who in turn can build and enhance the communities in which they live. The Foundation primarily supports organizations in the state of Alabama, with limited funding in the states of Florida and Georgia. The Foundation provides grants for programs that expand the horizons of and opportunities for children and young adults. Initiatives whose direct objectives are providing better education, promoting self-esteem, and instilling in its beneficiaries a desire to improve oneself are of special interest. Preference is given to creative programs in the area of education from pre-kindergarten through higher education. Letters of inquiry are due November 15, 2013. The deadline for invited proposals is December 15, 2013. Visit the Foundation's website to learn more about the application process.

Healthcare Services in Idaho, Montana, and Oregon Funded

[**PacificSource Foundation for Health Improvement**](#)

The PacificSource Foundation for Health Improvement provides support to nonprofit organizations working to improve health status and meet healthcare needs in the communities the company serves in Idaho, Montana, and Oregon. The Foundation's Responsive Grants are provided to nonprofit organizations offering healthcare services to meet the needs of vulnerable populations. Priority is given to safety net organizations serving children and youth, as well as adults with barriers to care. One-year Responsive Grants support organizations in meeting a one-time need or in filling a short-term gap of a service. The upcoming application deadline is November 30, 2013. Strategic Grants provide capacity building support to nonprofit organizations that address the Foundation's priorities. Letters of intent for these grants may be submitted at any time. Visit the company's website to learn more about the Foundation's priorities and application process.

Federal Funding

Coastal Conservation Funded

[**Department of Commerce**](#)

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program provides support to protect important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values, or that are threatened by conversion from their natural, undeveloped, or recreational state to other uses. The application deadline is November 15, 2013.

Funds Available to Convert Existing Housing to Assisted Living Housing

Department of Housing and Urban Development

The Assisted Living Conversion Program provides support for the physical costs of converting multifamily developments into assisted living facilities or service-enriched housing. The application deadline is November 18, 2013.

Program Supports Cultural Preservation Efforts

National Park Service

The Preservation Technology and Training Grants program supports innovative research, training, and publications that develop new technologies or adapt existing technologies to preserve cultural resources. Disciplinary areas include archaeology, architecture, collections management, engineering, historic landscapes, and materials conservation. The application deadline is November 19, 2013.

African American Museum Projects Supported

Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Museum Grants for African American History and Culture program supports projects that develop or strengthen knowledge, skills, and other expertise of staff at African American museums; attract and retain professionals with the skills needed to strengthen African American museums; and attract new staff to African American museum practice and provide them with the expertise needed to sustain them in the museum field. The application deadline is December 2, 2013.



State Department Ignores Keystone XL Impact on Endangered Species

EcoWatch

Excerpt: "The State Department's review of the Keystone XL pipeline woefully underestimates the impacts it would have on some of America's most endangered species." [READ MORE](#)

<http://rawforbeauty.com/blog/>

**I kill HIV, fight cancer,
anti-oxidant, anti-microbial
healing and analgesic, but
Monsanto is killing me and
you can't live without me.**



**Washington University School
of Medicine scientists in
St. Louis have discovered that
bee venom can kill the HIV
virus without harming the body.**
www.facebook.com/Citizens.Action.Network

**Fukushima Radioactive
Plume to Hit the U.S. by
2014**

ecowatch.com

The first radioactive
ocean plume released by
the Fukushima nuclear
power plant disaster will
finally be reaching the
shores of the U.S.
sometime in 2014,
according to a new
study ...

I guess I'll have to change my phone message!:

National Aquarium to close in DC after 128 years

Associated Press An aquarium that opened its doors to visitors in 1885 is closing its doors in the nation's capital.

Keep Farmland for Farmers

By LINDSEY LUSHER SHUTE and BENJAMIN SHUTE

CLERMONT, N.Y. — WHEN we went looking in upstate New York for a home for our farm, we feared competition from deep-pocketed developers, a new subdivision or a big-box store. These turned out to be the least of our problems.

Though the farms best suited for our vegetables were protected from development by conservation easements, we discovered that we couldn't compete, because conserved farmland is open to all buyers — millionaires included.

Easements are intended to protect farmland, water, animal habitat, historic sites and scenic views, and so they are successful in keeping farms from becoming malls and subdivisions. But they don't stop Wall Street bankers from turning them into private getaways, with price tags to match.

Few bankers farm; long days with little pay lack appeal. [A new report](#) by the National Young Farmers Coalition, a group we helped start, reveals that one-quarter of the land trusts that oversee these conservation easements have seen protected land go out of production. Why? A nonfarmer had bought it.

Still, tax incentives in New York encourage nonfarmers to rent their land to farmers, so you would think suitable land would be easy to find.

Most landlords, however, offer only short-term leases. They want peace and quiet; they don't want vegetable or livestock operations that bring traffic, workers, noise and fences. But long-term land tenure is essential for vegetable and livestock growers, who need years to build soil fertility, improve pasture and add infrastructure. Only farms that grow low-value animal feed crops like hay, corn or beans are attracted to one-year leases.

Once well-off city residents who are looking for second homes buy the land, farmer ownership is over. After they've added an air-conditioned home, a heated pool and an asphalt drive, the value increases so much that no working farmer can afford it. The farm, and its capacity to feed a community, is lost.

Thankfully, there is a solution. The [Vermont Land Trust](#) and the [State of Massachusetts](#) are keeping farmland in the hands of farmers through stricter conservation easements that limit who can own it, which keeps farms affordable and deters farm sales to nonfarmers.

To qualify, the Vermont Land Trust requires that a farmer derive at least half of his or her income from farming, or have a business plan that demonstrates an ability to run a viable farm business. The trust has the option to step in and buy the land at its agricultural value and find a suitable farmer if the seller can't (or won't) find a qualified buyer.

Landowners in Vermont or Massachusetts selling easements with this affordability option are paid the difference between the market value of the farm and its agricultural value, which is significantly less. That increases the cost of conserving the land over a traditional easement by an average of 10 to 40 percent. But the payoff in fresh, local food, jobs and young farmers in the community is easily worth it.

In the next 20 years, 70 percent of the nation's farmland will change hands. Farmers do not live forever, and most farm kids do not choose to carry on the family business. [An eager generation of young Americans is motivated to farm](#) but, like us, they need land and few will be able to secure it without help.

The federal government and states spend hundreds of millions of dollars on farmland conservation each year, which can do much more than protect pastoral views for the wealthy. Those dollars must also be used to shore up rural economies and national food security with productive farms.

Eighty percent of us live in or near cities. It's critical that farms ring those cities, and that farmers in the ring be protected. The United States Department of Agriculture spends money to preserve

farms, but matching funds are required, and there aren't enough. In New York State, the Farmland Protection Program hasn't come to the aid of any new farms in five years.

Smart, self-interested cities would be wise to do their part. New York City needs to think about the land beyond the boroughs. The need is well documented: [a recent study](#) identified 614 vital unprotected farms in the Hudson Valley.

New York City invested in the protection of its watershed in the Catskills; it needs to do the same with farmland to assure fresh food. It must come up with the money and leadership to help regional land trusts protect farms.

At Oklahoma State Capitol

As water resources dwindle in the West, and as transportation and fuel costs climb and research shows that fresh, clean food is the key to a healthy life, isn't it the job of every city and town to secure the land and the farmers necessary to grow the food they need? Locking up land for farmers is the first step.



We started our Hearty Roots Community Farm nine years ago but quickly realized that we needed more stability than we were getting with the 20 acres we had rented in Dutchess County. After a grueling four-year search, a land trust came to our aid: with help from Scenic Hudson, we were able to buy a 70-acre farm in Clermont, a town of 2,000 people, just five miles north of where we'd been renting.

This land is protected only by a traditional conservation easement, but because it never made the transition to an estate and the previous landowner felt strongly that it be sold to a farmer, we got lucky. But what happens after us? We want to pass our stewardship of this land on to future farmers. We are now working with the land trust to tighten our easement and make sure that on our land, an American farm family will always have a chance to succeed.

Lindsey Lusher Shute and Benjamin Shute are farmers in the Hudson Valley and co-founders of the [National Young Farmers Coalition](#).

From the Eagle Watch September 30, 2013

Elsipogtog First Nation - Signigtog Mi'kmaq Reclaim Stewardship of Native Lands

“There will be no more of our lands being held in trust by governments.”

Elsipogtog First Nation Chief and Council will announce their resolution to reclaim their stewardship over all unoccupied alleged “Crown” land. The Band Council Resolution (BCR)

will be publicly unveiled at a media conference at the Rexton shale gas resistance site at the junction of Highway 11 & 134 at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2013.

Compelled to action by their people to save their waters, lands and animals from ruin, the Elsipogtog First Nation and Signitog District Grand Council are reclaiming responsibility for stewardship of all unoccupied reserved native lands in their territory.

The lands of the Signitog Mi'kmaq have never been ceded or sold; for centuries, the British Crown claimed to be holding the lands in trust for them. However, the Original people of the territory, together with their hereditary and elected leaders, believe that their lands and waters are being badly mismanaged by Canada, the province and corporations to the point of ruin. Now facing complete destruction, they feel that the lands are no longer capable of providing enough to support the populations of the region.

Because of these threats to their survival and way of life, the Mi'kmaq people of Signitog are resuming stewardship of their lands and waters to correct the problems and are planning measures to restore them back to good health. Last July, the Signitog District Grand Council notified the province of New Brunswick that they had served shale gas developer Southwestern Energy (SWN) with an eviction notice.

Elsipogtog Chief Arren Sock states, "We will respect everyone who lives and works in our territories and respects the Treaties of Peace and Friendship and our authority over our lands. We intend to be fair to everyone."

For more information, please contact:

Chief Aaren Sock (506) 523-8201/8221

John Levi (506) 523-5014

Gary Simon (506) 523-1828

Willi Nolan (506) 785-4660

[A Century Later, the Battle for Hetch Hetchy Continues](#)

The fight over a dam in Yosemite National Park marked the birth of the environmental movement

[KENNETH BROWER, EARTH ISAND JOURNAL](#)

Editor's Note: A hundred years ago, in 1913, the US Congress passed the Raker Act, which allowed for the construction of a massive dam in Yosemite National Park to feed the water and power needs of the City of San Francisco. As Ken Brower writes in his new book, [Hetch Hetchy: Undoing a Great American Mistake](#) (Heyday Press), "The environmental movement as we know it was forged in the fight against Hetch Hetchy Dam. No previous debate over the American landscape had so engaged and enraged the American public."

[Environmental science students rise to storytelling challenge](#)

[Sarah Yarnell, California Water Blog](#)

Every spring for the past 12 years, a class of a dozen or so UC Davis undergraduates ride a river in the American West for a learning adventure like none other in their college life.

[Copper mine bill sparks debate over Native American sacred lands](#)

[dailycaller.com](#)

The House of Representatives is set to vote on a bill that some say will destroy sacred ground. A bipartisan bill introduced by Arizona Rep. Republican Paul Gosar and Democratic Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick

[Native American Paiute Indian Eagle Dance 1997](#) www.youtube.com

[Native American Paiute Indian Eagle Dance, 1997, performed by the Frazier family. Wesley Jim singing with Mervin Wright and Merlin Thompson drumming. Mervin ...](#)

[White House Trying to Cheat Tribes on Health Costs](#)

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

[Tribal leaders have reviewed a plan that amounts to a tribe-by-tribe federal cap on contract support costs funding.](#)

[National Women's History Museum](#)



Ruth Muskrat Bronson, who was born today in 1897, was a Native American rights activist. Her mother was an Irish American and her father was a Cherokee Indian. As a child, Muskrat Bronson saw firsthand the near dissolution of Cherokee Nation when Oklahoma was seeking and granted US statehood. She went on to serve for 12 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and penned the book, "Indians are People, Too."

Deal secures historical records bonanza

TOM HARVEY

Two of the world's largest family history research organisations are joining forces in an effort they say will bring a billion historical records online.

The Mormon church-operated FamilySearch International and Utah-based company Ancestry.com have announced a deal in which they will collaborate to bring online the church's vast worldwide collections of [family history records](#).

Ancestry.com chief executive Tim Sullivan says while details need to be worked out, his company plans to pour more than US\$60 million (NZ\$72.5m) into the effort over the next five years.

"To have the two, I guess one could say, largest and most important organisations in the family history space working together to bring over a billion records online over the next several years is just a fantastic thing," Sullivan says.

[FamilySearch](#) calls itself the largest genealogy organisation in the world. It is an arm of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, better known as the Mormons.

The beliefs of the Salt Lake City-based church are centred on extended families joined together through ceremonies in its temples.

Ancestry.com describes itself as the "world's largest online family history resource".

About 2.7 million paying subscribers have access to online records and connections to other family researchers.

Don Anderson, FamilySearch senior vice-president of patron and partner services, says his organisation sees the agreement as further expanding its historic mission of providing access to family history research material.

"I think from a FamilySearch perspective, what we're trying to do is work with a variety of partners where we can make the records the most accessible to individuals to use them," he says. "This relationship with Ancestry is really indicative of work we're trying to do across the board."

The effort of the two organisations will be directed at taking Mormon church-gathered records from around the world, now mostly in microfilm, and converting them into digital form that is searchable online.

For Ancestry.com, which operates mostly in English-speaking countries as well as Sweden, the deal will provide it with records from many other countries and enable it to expand its reach, says Sullivan.

The effort joins the non-profit FamilySearch, which provides free access to its records, and the for-profit Ancestry.com, which charges subscribers monthly fees for access to its databases and services.

The two organisations have collaborated on projects for several years and Sullivan says Ancestry.com does not view FamilySearch's free content as a drain on its revenues.

"If anything, it's a great way to let people try out the category with [a free site](#)," he says. Ancestry offers other content as well as access to a large online community and unique technology.