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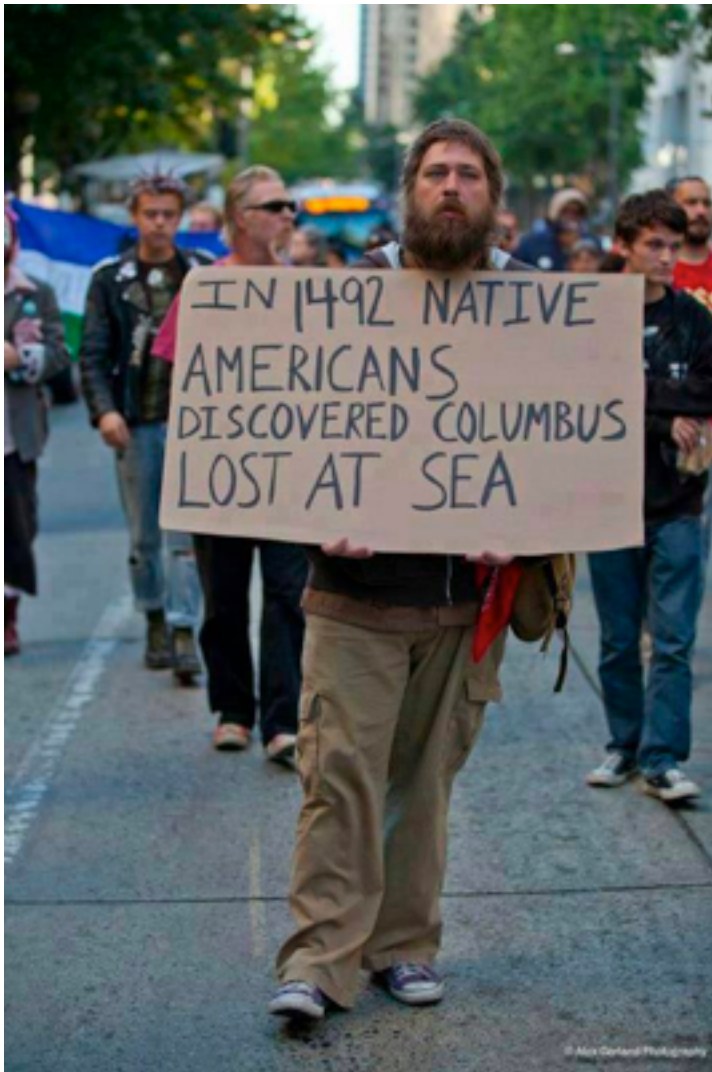
Scientists have grown an extinct tree from ancient seeds

CDFI Fund Awards Indian Land Capital Company its Third \$750K Award

Woman denied help gives birth on clinic's lawn

Ground breaking for new homes on the Pueblo de San Ildefonso

GrassRoots Books



Christopher Columbus and the Indian by [Howard Zinn](#)

[Howard Zinn is an author and lecturer. His most noted work, from which this selection is excerpted, is [A People's History of the United States](#).]

Arawak men and women, naked, tawny, and full of wonder, emerged from their villages onto the island's beaches and swam out to get a closer look at the strange big boat. When Columbus and his sailors came ashore, carrying swords, speaking oddly, the Arawaks ran to greet them, brought them food, water, gifts. He later wrote of this in his log:

"They... brought us [parrots](#) and balls of cotton and spears and many other things, which they exchanged for the glass beads and hawks' bells. They willingly traded everything they owned.... They were well-built, with good bodies and handsome features.... They do not bear arms,

and do not know them, for I showed them a sword, they took it by the edge and cut themselves out of ignorance. They have no iron. Their spears are made of cane.... They would make fine servants.... With fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want."

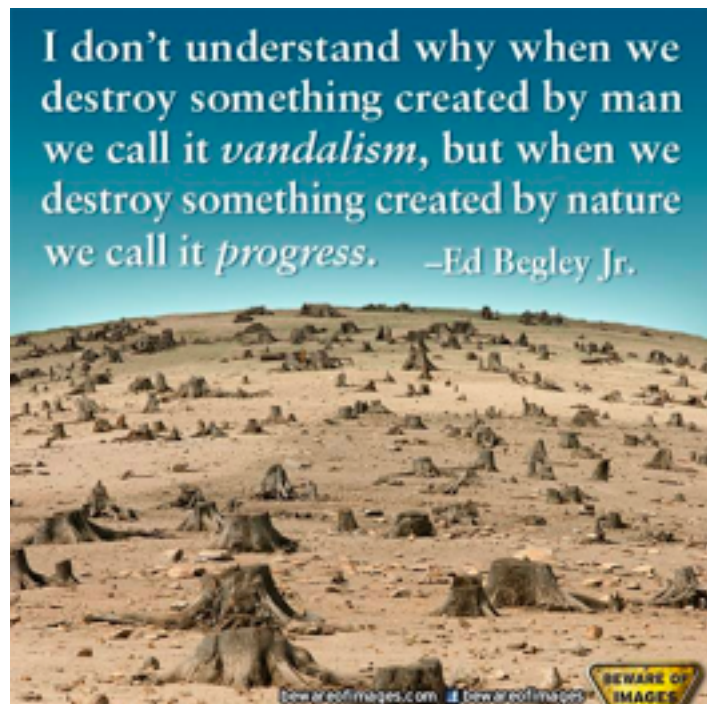
These Arawaks of the [Bahama Islands](#) were much like Indians on the mainland, who were remarkable (European observers were to say again and again) for their hospitality, their belief in sharing. These traits did not stand out in the Europe of the Renaissance, dominated as it was by the religion of popes, the government of kings, the frenzy for money that marked Western civilization and its first messenger to the Americas, Christopher Columbus.

Columbus wrote: "As soon as I arrived in the Indies, on the first Island which I found, I took some of the natives by force in order that they might learn and might give me information of whatever there is in these parts." The information that Columbus wanted most was: Where is the gold?

The Indians, Columbus reported, "are so naive and so free with their possessions that no one who has not witnessed them would believe it. When you ask for something they have, they never say no. To the contrary, they offer to share with anyone...." He concluded his report by asking for a little help from their Majesties, and in return he would bring them from his next voyage "as much gold as they need . . . and as many slaves as they ask." He was full of religious talk: "Thus the eternal God, our Lord, gives victory to those who follow His way over apparent impossibilities."

Because of Columbus's exaggerated report and promises, his second expedition was given seventeen ships and more than twelve hundred men. The aim was clear: slaves and gold. They went from island to island in the Caribbean, taking Indians as captives. But as word spread of the Europeans' intent they found more and more empty villages. On Haiti, they found that the sailors left behind at Fort Navidad had been killed in a battle with the Indians, after they had roamed the island in gangs looking for gold, taking women and children as slaves for sex and labor.

Now, from his base on Haiti, Columbus sent expedition after expedition into the interior. They found no gold fields, but had to fill up the ships returning to Spain with some kind of dividend. In the year 1495, they went on a great slave raid, rounded up fifteen hundred Arawak men, women, and children, put them in pens guarded by Spaniards and dogs, then picked the



five hundred best specimens to load onto ships. Of those five hundred, two hundred died en route. The rest arrived alive in Spain and were put up for sale by the archdeacon of the town, who reported that, although the slaves were "naked as the day they were born," they showed "no more embarrassment than animals." Columbus later wrote: "Let us in the name of the Holy Trinity go on sending all the slaves that can be sold."

But too many of the slaves died in captivity. And so Columbus, desperate to pay back dividends to those who had invested, had to make good his promise to fill the ships with gold. In the province of Cicao on Haiti, where he and his men imagined huge gold fields to exist, they ordered all persons fourteen years or older to collect a certain quantity of gold every three months. When they brought it, they were given copper tokens to hang around their necks. Indians found without a copper token had their hands cut off and bled to death.

The Indians had been given an impossible task. The only gold around was bits of dust garnered from the streams. So they fled, were hunted down with dogs, and were killed.

Trying to put together an army of resistance, the Arawaks faced Spaniards who had armor, muskets, swords, horses. When the Spaniards took prisoners they hanged them or burned them to death. Among the Arawaks, mass suicides began, with cassava poison. Infants were killed to save them from the Spaniards. In two years, through murder, mutilation, or suicide, half of the 250,000 Indians on Haiti were dead.

When it became clear that there was no gold left, the Indians were taken as slave labor on huge estates, known later as *encomiendas*. They were worked at a ferocious pace, and died by the thousands. By the year 1515, there were perhaps fifty thousand Indians left. By 1550, there were five hundred. A report of the year 1650 shows none of the original Arawaks or their descendants left on the island.

The chief source-and, on many matters the only source of information about what happened on the islands after Columbus came is Bartolome de las Casas, who, as a young priest, participated in the conquest of Cuba. For a time he owned a plantation on which Indian slaves worked, but he gave that up and became a vehement critic of Spanish cruelty. In Book Two of his *History of the Indies*, Las Casas (who at first urged replacing Indians by black slaves, thinking they were stronger and would survive, but later relented when he saw the effects on blacks) tells about the treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards. It is a unique account and deserves to be quoted at length:

"Endless testimonies . . . prove the mild and pacific temperament of the natives.... But our work was to exasperate, ravage, kill, mangle and destroy; small wonder, then, if they tried to kill one of us now and then.... The admiral, it is true, was blind as those who came after him, and he was so anxious to please the King that he committed irreparable crimes against the Indians..."

Las Casas tells how the Spaniards "grew more conceited every day" and after a while refused to walk any distance. They "rode the backs of Indians if they were in a hurry" or were carried on hammocks by Indians running in relays. "In this case they also had Indians carry large leaves to shade them from the sun and others to fan them with goose wings."

Total control led to total cruelty. The Spaniards "thought nothing of knifing Indians by tens and twenties and of cutting slices off them to test the sharpness of their blades." Las Casas tells how "two of these so-called Christians met two Indian boys one day, each carrying a parrot; they took the parrots and for fun beheaded the boys."

The Indians' attempts to defend themselves failed. And when they ran off into the hills they were found and killed. So, Las Casas reports. "they suffered and died in the mines and other labors in desperate silence, knowing not a soul in the world to whom they could turn for help." He describes their work in the mines:

"... mountains are stripped from top to bottom and bottom to top a thousand times; they dig, split rocks, move stones, and carry dirt on their backs to wash it in the rivers, while those who wash gold stay in the water all the time with their backs bent so constantly it breaks them; and when water invades the mines, the most arduous task of all is to dry the mines by scooping up pansful of water and throwing it up outside....

After each six or eight months' work in the mines, which was the time required of each crew to dig enough gold for melting, up to a third of the men died. While the men were sent many miles away to the mines, the wives remained to work the soil, forced into the excruciating job of digging and making thousands of hills for cassava plants.

Thus husbands and wives were together only once every eight or ten months and when they met they were so exhausted and depressed on both sides . . . they ceased to procreate. As for the newly born, they died early because their mothers, overworked and famished, had no milk to nurse them, and for this reason, while I was in Cuba, 7000 children died in three months. Some mothers even drowned their babies from sheer desperation.... In this way, husbands died in the mines, wives died at work, and children died from lack of milk . . . and in a short time this land which was so great, so powerful and fertile ... was depopulated.... My eyes have seen these acts so foreign to human nature, and now I tremble as I write...."

When he arrived on Hispaniola in 1508, Las Casas says, "there were 60,000 people living on this island, including the Indians; so that from 1494 to 1508, over three million people had perished from war, slavery, and the mines. Who in future generations will believe this? I myself writing it as a knowledgeable eyewitness can hardly believe it...."

Thus began the history, five hundred years ago, of the European invasion of the Indian settlements in the Americas. That beginning, when you read Las Casas--even if his figures are exaggerations (were there 3 million Indians to begin with, as he says, or less than a million, as some historians have calculated, or 8 million as others now believe?) is conquest, slavery, death. When we read the history books given to children in the United States, it all starts with heroic adventure--there is no bloodshed-and Columbus Day is a celebration.

The treatment of heroes (Columbus) and their victims (the Arawaks) the quiet acceptance of conquest and murder in the name of progress-is only one aspect of a certain approach to history, in which the past is told from the point of view of governments, conquerors, diplomats, leaders. It is as if they, like Columbus, deserve universal acceptance, as if they-the Founding Fathers, Jackson, Lincoln, Wilson, Roosevelt, Kennedy, the leading members of Congress, the famous

Justices of the Supreme Court-represent the nation as a whole. The pretense is that there really is such a thing as "the United States," subject to occasional conflicts and quarrels, but fundamentally a community of people with common interests. It is as if there really is a "national interest" represented in the Constitution, in territorial expansion, in the laws passed by Congress, the decisions of the courts, the development of capitalism, the culture of education and the mass media.

2 Howard Zinn, "Columbus, the Indians, and Human Progress," *A People's History of the United States*

[It Is Time to Recognize the National Sovereignty and Human Rights of Native Indians](#)

Kevin Zeese and Margaret Flowers, Truthout: The recent signing of the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the invigoration of the Native Indian movement show that it's time to recognize their rights in the face of their ongoing struggle. [Read the Article](#)

[Operation Streamline: Expedited Indian Removal](#)

Roberto Cintli Rodriguez, Truthout: The daily spectacle of 60-70 short, dark people - placed in chains as a result of their attempt to cross the border for a better life - consigned to a private prison by a "judge" proves literally stomach-turning for Rodriguez's students. [Read the Article](#)

<http://twistedifter.com/2013/08/maps-that-will-help-you-make-sense-of-the-world/>

Mi'kmaq communities in Cape Breton are upset after hunters shot a rare albino moose last week. Mi'kmaq hunter Danny Paul said aboriginal communities have known about the moose for years, but refrained from killing it because white animals are considered sacred. <http://cbc.sh/Eq4985B>



[First Nations say they will fight oilsands, pipeline](#)

www.cbc.ca

[An alliance of First Nations leaders from the U.S. and Canada say they are gearing up to fight the Northern Gateway and Keystone XL pipelines both in the courts and through unspecified direct action.](#)

CROWD FUNDING ROADMAP TO HOST SESSION AT M RESORT

Crowdfunding Roadmap, which seeks to teach the best practices to investors and entrepreneurs, will host its second annual Global **Crowdfunding Convention and Bootcamp Oct. 14-16** at M Resort in Henderson. <http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz18651778>

[Nevada Wolf Pack Native Heritage Month in conjunction with Nike N7](#)

We are looking for Pow Wow Princess's and Royalty to be recognized during the Women's Basketball Game. Please contact me if you are interested via message or if you know individuals pass the word along.

Hi, friends.

Any chance you'll help us spread the word about our **Native author reading** next week? Heyday is sponsoring the first ever Native event at Litquake, the country's biggest literary festival and I so want these authors we've invited to get a full house and a warm welcome. The readings will be from Joy Harjo, Greg Sarris, Deborah Miranda, Natalie Diaz, and Gordon Johnson at Z Space in San Francisco at 7:30 pm on Thursday, October 17th. Here's the link to tickets (only \$10 and all of it goes to rent the theater and pay author stipends): <http://www.litquake.org/calendar-of-events/using-words-as-arrows-contemporary-native-american-writers>

I really hope to see you all there!

Lindsie M. Bear, California Indian Publishing Director, Editor, News from Native California
Heyday 510.549.3564 x307 P.O. Box 9145, Berkeley, CA 94709
heydaybooks.com [News from Native California on Facebook](#)

Who Discovered America? The Untold History of the Peopling of the Americas

by Gavin Menzies \$28.99

Greatly expanding on his blockbuster *1421*, distinguished historian Gavin Menzies uncovers the complete untold history of how mankind came to the Americas-offering new revelations and a radical rethinking of the accepted historical record in *Who Discovered America?*

The iconoclastic historian's magnum opus, *Who Discovered America?* calls into question our understanding of how the American continents were settled, shedding new light on the well-known "discoveries" of European explorers, including Christopher Columbus. In *Who Discovered America?* he combines meticulous research and an adventurer's spirit to reveal astounding new evidence of an ancient Asian seagoing tradition-most notably the Chinese-that dates as far back as 130,000 years ago.

The year is 1910, over one hundred years ago. What a difference a century makes!

Here are some statistics for the Year 1910:

The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Fuel for this car was sold in drug stores only.
 Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.
 Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.
 There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.
 The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
 The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower !
 The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.
 The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
 A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year,
 a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year,
 and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
 More than 95 percent of all births took place at HOME.
 Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION!
 Instead, they attended so-called medical schools,
 many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as 'substandard.'
 Sugar cost four cents a pound.
 Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
 Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.
 Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for
 shampoo.
 There was no such thing as under arm deodorant or tooth paste.
 Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any
 reason.
 The five leading causes of death were:
 1. Pneumonia and influenza
 2. Tuberculosis
 3. Diarrhea
 4. Heart disease
 5. Stroke
 The American flag had 45 stars.
 The (white)population of Las Vegas Nevada was only 30!
 Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet
 There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
 Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and only 6 percent of all Americans had
 graduated from high school.
 Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.
 There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A. !
 I am now going to forward this to someone else without typing it myself.
 From there, it will be sent to others all over the WORLD...all in a matter of seconds!
 Try to imagine what it may be like in another 100 years.

There's a secret library in the New York City subway By [Jess Zimmerman](#)
 How long do you have to live in a city before you find out about its secret underground library?
 In my case, I guess it's 10 months, because I just heard about the tiny New York Public Library
 branch (the Terence Cardinal Cooke-Cathedral Branch, officially) tucked away in a subway
 station.

The underground branch lives outside the turnstiles at the 51st Street 6 stop, and it sounds like a
 sort of literacy-and-public-transit-themed *Cheers*. "You see the same people all the time," patron
 Melissa Britt [told the New York Times](#) in 2010. "You can't find this place unless someone tells

you about it.” Another patron added, “If you don’t take the train, you’d probably never even know this place exists.”

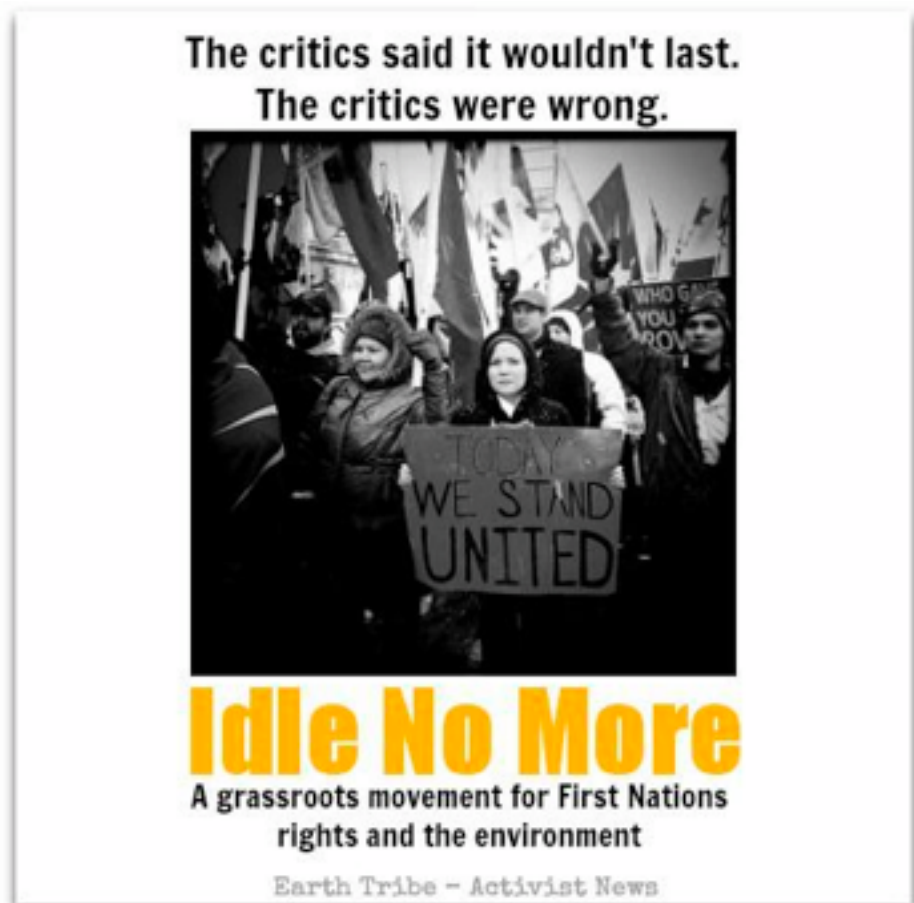
Most people who use this branch “don’t come here for serious research,” says the branch manager — they want page-turners for the commute — but don’t think the librarians don’t offer reference services. “They come in asking for help with the MetroCard machine,” the manager told the *Times*. “We do help them if we’re not too busy, and they also ask us for subway maps, so we keep a lot of them on hand.”

H/t @debcha

[Long-Hidden Sites Discovered in the Southwest May Change Views of Ancient Migrations | Western Digs](#)

westerndigs.org

[A type of site never before described by archaeologists is shedding new light on the prehistory of the American Southwest and may change conventional thinking about the ancient migrations that shaped the region.](#)



[Scientists have grown an extinct tree from ancient seeds](#)

Get ready for the Jurassic Park of trees.

BY JESS ZIMMERMAN

“People were telling me it couldn’t be done,” the craggy, white-haired man in the denim shirt says. “And that’s the wrong thing to say to a cowboy.”

<http://movies.nytimes.com/2013/10/04/movies/in-running-wild-mustangs-are-saved.html?src=recg>

LA Producer:

Just saw this movie in Pasadena yesterday. It is about a man who lives his life on his own terms, which luckily for us benefits mankind & the environment. A cowboy who has been a photographer, writer, rodeo clown, rancher, environmentalist, etc. Everyone should see this heartwarming movie of an amazing man who has saved the wild horses in South Dakota.

– Nancy Koch Chulay, Los Angeles, California

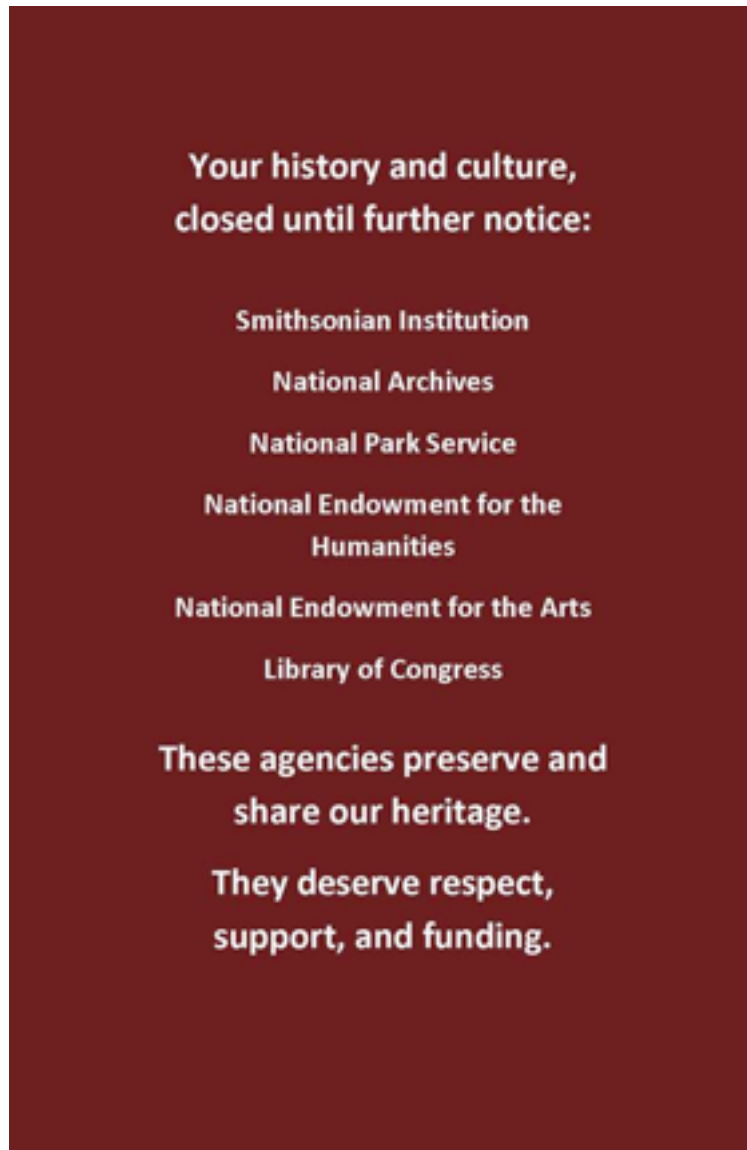
CDFI Fund Awards Indian Land Capital Company its Third \$750K Award

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

[For the third year in a row, Indian Land Capital Company \(ILCC\), an American Indian-owned and -managed Native Community Development Financial Institution \(Native CDFI\) and leader in the tribal land financing and acquisition movement, has received the highest tier financial](#)

[award, \\$750,000, from the...](#)

[National Humanities Alliance's photo.](#)



•[Like PageNCAIED - National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development](#)

New editorial by Gary Davis - NCAIED President and CEO, "No Tribes Left Behind: A Smarter Plan for Economic Development" published in Indian Country Today. <http://ow.ly/pBXVg>

No Tribes Left Behind: A Smarter Plan for Economic Development

[ow.ly](#)To break this cycle, tribes have worked long and hard to solve their shared problems, taking action when possible to bring development resources to...

Woman denied help gives birth on clinic's lawn

MEXICO CITY (AP) - An indigenous woman squats in pain after giving birth, her newborn still bound by the umbilical cord and

lying on the ground. It's a photograph that horrified Mexicans because of where it took place: the lawn outside a medical clinic where the woman had been denied help, and it struck a nerve in a country where inequity is still pervasive. The government of the southern state of Oaxaca announced Wednesday that it has suspended the health center's director, Dr. Adrian Cruz...

Monitor criteria: article contains government and section matches Nevada

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/L/LT_MEXICO_P

<http://goldenagersrock.com/?p=1332>

Congratulations to Donald James of Smith River Rancheria

The Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) selects one water/wastewater operator each year as Operator of the Year. The 2013 awardee is Donald James, operator of the Howonquet Community Water System at Smith River Rancheria. [Read his nomination here>>](#) [back to top](#)

Ground breaking for new homes on the Pueblo de San Ildefonso

By Angela Terry, RCAC PR communications coordinator

The Northern Pueblos Housing Authority (NPHA) broke ground on 10 single-family homes in early September. The homes will be the first newly constructed homes on the Pueblo in nearly 20 years.

The modern pueblo-style homes will incorporate green energy design. The homes will be available to very low- and low-income members of the San Ildefonso Tribe through the NPHA's lease-to-own homeownership program. [Read more >>](#)

Grassroots Books makes it affordable to give books instead of candy on Halloween! All month long, find bundles of 50 kids books for just \$25 (50% savings) -- no tricks! It's the perfect treat to punctuate a kid's bag of candy and a great value for teachers and parents of enthusiastic readers.

Paws 2 Read

Dogs are known as man's best friend, but how about as a child's best reading buddy? The Paws 2 Read team of therapy dogs returns to Grassroots Books on Saturday, October 19 from 11am-1pm!

The Paws 2 Read dogs visit area libraries each month, lending their non-judgmental ears and companionable presence to developing readers. After a group story time, kids can each select a free book (choose from thousands of unstickered kids books!) to then read to a therapy dog of their own. [Learn more about Paws 2 Read](#)

Warehouse Sale (warehouse items only: books, movies & music)

Wednesday - Sunday, October 23-October 27

8,000+ books and media—fiction, non-fiction, YA—all 99¢

2,000+ books—kids grade level 6 and below—all 25¢

\$4.99 Bag Sale: Sunday 9am-5pm

Teacher/Non-Profit Giveaway: Sunday after 5pm

Sell your rare and collectible books and vinyl!

Bring your old and collectible books and vinyl to Grassroots Books on Monday, October 28 between 4pm and 7pm. We'll have independent dealers and collectors at the store to bid for your special items. As always, our regular team of buyers will be available so you can sell your other books, movies, music, and games.

Free Book Day

Thursday, October 31 ~ choose from 10,000+ books! (unstickered, limit one per person)

Upcoming Warehouse / \$4.99 Bag Sales

2013 Sale Dates* - All items 99¢, kids books 25¢

*dates subject to change

Wednesday-Sunday, October 23 - October 27

\$4.99 Bag Sale: Sunday 9am-5pm

Teacher/Non-Profit Giveaway: Sunday after 5pm

Wednesday - **Monday**, November 6-November 11

\$4.99 Bag Sale: Sunday 9am-8pm, Monday 9am-5pm

Teacher/Non-Profit Giveaway: Monday after 5pm

Terry Lee Wells Discovery Museum Wednesday, October 16 ~ 10am-7pm

Stop by the Discovery Museum lobby to pick up a free kids book! Admission to the museum, while not required to get a free book, is just \$4 after 4pm.

Pumpkin Palooza Sunday, October 20 ~ 10am-5pm

Celebrate all things pumpkin at Victorian Square during Pumpkin Palooza 2013. Enjoy storytelling, carnival games, pie-eating contests, and more. We'll be there handing out free kids books!

Book Fairs

Did you know that in 2012 Grassroots Books helped raise \$19,000+ for elementary, middle, and high schools in the community? We can help your school, club, or organization with fundraising through our book fair program. For more information, please visit grassrootsbooks.com/bookfairs, email bookfairs@grassrootsbooks.com, or call Kim at (775) 393-9631.

Free Used Book for Everyone

Every year, we give everyone a chance to select a free used book*. Choose from 10,000+ unstickered books. Just print this paragraph! Good for each kid and adult in your group. Please pass this on to your friends. Word of mouth is our #1 source of new customers. *Limit one per person in 2013 **from any promotion**.