


*Journal #3088                      from sdc                      4.10.14*  
*Denim Day in support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month*  
*Two top GOP Congressional Candidates Favor Yucca Mountain*  
*18 Acres? 18 Stories? TMT? A'ole*  
*Environmental/fishing/tribes protest rollback of environmental protections*  
*April is Mentor Month*  
*AARP and SBA Webinar – The Secrets to Writing a Good Business Plan*  
*Via Verde  The Green Way, is a model of green living at its best*  
*Bronx Neighborhood Fights for Its Spot on the Map*  
*Population Growth and Climate Change Will Radically Alter California's Largest Watershed*  
*Youth CareerConnect*  
*Summer Food Service*

Lesley Williams shared Domestic Violence Intervention, Inc.'s photo.

Wednesday April 23, 2014 is **Denim Day in support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month**. I am asking everyone to participate by wearing your favorite denim jeans and if possible take it farther and wear a teal shirt. Please send pics to [legaladv@fpst.org](mailto:legaladv@fpst.org) and I will create an album on our Facebook page. Thank you in advance

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## **TWO TOP GOP CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES FAVOR YUCCA MOUNTAIN IF DONE SAFELY**

The top two Republican candidates vying in the 2014 election for the right to replace U.S. Rep. Steven Horsford said last week they're both in favor of storing the nation's high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain as long as it can be done safely.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz20606032>

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## **18 Acres? 18 Stories? TMT? A'ole.**

The TMT Corporation and the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents are proposing a massive new telescope for Mauna Kea, the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT). Learn more about this proposed development. [kahea.org](http://kahea.org)

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## **This just in ... Environmental organizations, fishing organizations, tribes, and Delta stakeholders protest rollback of environmental protections: Environmental laws are not the cause of water shortages, and waiving them is not the solution."**

### **Maven, Maven's Notebook**

The NRDC, the Environmental Water Caucus, the CSPA, Friends of the River, Restore the Delta, and numerous other fishing, wildlife, Native American tribes, and environmental organizations have sent a letter to Secretary Jewell, Secretary Pritzker, Secretary Laird, and Secretary Rodriguez urging them to end the ongoing rollbacks of environmental protections in the Delta. Three dry years have caused the hardship, not the environmental protections, they say.

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### [April is Mentor Month](#)

SBA and AARP are teaming up to host National Encore Entrepreneur Mentor Month, targeting entrepreneurs over the age of 50. Throughout April, SBA district offices, state AARP offices and SBA resource partners will host more than 100 events (workshops, conferences, seminars, etc.) to help entrepreneurs 50+ start or grow a business. [> Find an event near you](#)

### [AARP and SBA Webinar – The Secrets to Writing a Good Business Plan](#)

Have you considered developing a plan for your small business? Learn why it is important to have a small business plan during this free, one-hour webinar on April 22 by joining AARP and SBA as we help age 50+ individuals get your small business up and running. [> Read more](#)

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Situated in the heart of the South Bronx, the multi-award winning **Via Verde**  **The Green Way, is a model of green living at its best** with a 66 kW building-integrated photovoltaic system, onsite cogeneration, rainwater harvesting, community vegetable gardens, green roofs and much more. Designed by Dattner Architects and Grimshaw Architects, financing for this \$98 million project from owner/developer Jonathan Rose Companies / Phipps Houses was the result of NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg's multiple tax bond and subsidy initiatives which allowed those with a lower income to qualify for residential eligibility.

With an extraordinarily high incidence of asthma in the Bronx, along with prevailing obesity, partially because of limited access to fresh produce in poor neighborhoods, Via Verde was conceived to solve such health concerns. Lending a unique identity to the LEED NC Gold certified development, a series of green roofs designed by Lee Weintraub Landscape Architects serves as the organizing architectural element, stepping up from three-story townhouses at the southern end of the site to a 20-story tower at the north. Utilizing [Garden Roof® Assemblies from American Hydrotech](#), greenroof contractor Nations Roof East exercised great care with Via Verde's working heights which soar some twenty stories above ground level. The variety of plants used within the many Via Verde roof levels includes succulents; sod grass lawns; perennial and annual flowers; diverse vegetables such as kale and tomatoes; fruit such as raspberries and blueberries; shrubs; and even small apple and fir trees, the latter of which are decorated during the festive Christmas holidays.

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### [Bronx Neighborhood Fights for Its Spot on the Map](#) By WINNIE HU

Allerton in the north Bronx has for years been overlooked and mislabeled by city planners and Google, but now residents have set out to get their neighborhood its due.

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### [Federal Water Tap, April 7: Population Growth and Climate Change Will Radically Alter California's Largest Watershed](#)

Weekly U.S. Federal Water News...

A major Bureau of Reclamation study depicts widespread changes in the coming decades for water supply and demand in California's Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, as well as for water quality in the delta ecosystem where the two rivers intersect.

The study, to be released publically later this month, uses climate models and population trends to assess physical changes in a watershed that drains 40 percent of California. The delta will grow saltier as seas rise and river flows drop. The watershed's ability to deliver water to cities and farms will worsen by the end of the century. Gaps between supply and demand, already

apparent, will grow larger, particularly in the southernmost reach of the San Joaquin, called the Tulare Lake Basin.

In almost all of the 18 possible climate futures that researchers modeled, the watershed is a radically changed ecosystem, said Arlan Nickel, who is managing the study for the Bureau of Reclamation.

“Precipitation is different, so are temperatures,” Nickel told Circle of Blue. “There is average warming of 4 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century. Precipitation is more variable. It becomes wetter in the north of the basin and drier the farther south you get.”

An increase in water demand will be driven by urban growth. The Central Valley, through which the two rivers flow, will add 8 million people by 2050 if current trends hold. Agricultural water use is expected to decline due to urban development.

The study – similar in scope to [a landmark analysis of the Colorado River](#), published in December 2012 – is part of the Bureau of Reclamation’s basin study series. By the end of the year, Reclamation will publish a second report on the Sacramento-San Joaquin, assessing various options for closing the projected gaps between supply and demand.

“The study is important because we need to find the best strategies for adapting to climate change,” said Dave Eggerton, general manager of El Dorado County Water Agency, a study partner. “This is particularly important for communities that rely on Sierra Nevada snowpack.”



### **Waste Disposal Failure**

The Interior Department’s internal watchdog [harshly criticized the department’s management of nonhazardous waste disposal sites](#), which could put drinking water aquifers at risk.

The Office of the Inspector General assessed Class V underground injection control wells, which are pits that use gravity to push unwanted waste underground.

Inspectors found that two types of wells banned by the Environmental Protection Agency nearly a decade ago were still being operated by Interior – those being, cesspools for human waste and pits for disposing motor fuel and other vehicle waste.

### **Record Pollution Settlement**

Anadarko Petroleum, a Texas-based oil company, agreed to a \$US 5.1 billion settlement to clean up pollution created by one of its subsidiaries, the Justice Department announced.

The settlement includes [\\$US 1 billion to clean up drinking water sources on the Navajo Nation](#) that were contaminated by uranium mining by Kerr-McGee, a company Anadarko acquired in 2006, the *Washington Post* reports.

### **DC Water Week**

Water industry groups will [flock to the nation's capital](#) this week. In between awards ceremonies and trade expos, the groups representing drinking water, sewage, and stormwater utilities will lobby Congress for more infrastructure dollars.

Their message will be twofold, said Adam Krantz, who handles government policy for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, a sewer group.

Krantz told Circle of Blue that the April 8 congressional briefing will emphasize the jobs and improvements in public health that come from infrastructure investment.

Lawmakers will also hear about the “utility of the future.” In this vision, utilities are vendors rather than garbage men. They will sell treated sewer water to manufacturers and landscapers. Excess phosphorous will sold to farmers. Methane derived from sludge will be burned for electricity.

Industry groups would like seed money and flexible regulatory policies to assist that transition. They sent [identical letters](#) to the chairs of the House and Senate budget committees requesting that potential cuts to two water infrastructure funds be reversed. President Obama's [2015 budget proposal](#) slashed spending for the funds by 25 percent.

### **EPA Water Rule**

The EPA's science advisory board will hold [two public teleconferences](#) to discuss a draft report released last fall. The report is the scientific foundation for an EPA proposal, released March 25, [to clarify the regulatory reach of the Clean Water Act](#). The teleconferences are on April 28 and May 2. For dial-in information or to request a time slot for an oral statement, contact [armitage.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:armitage.thomas@epa.gov).

Congress's internal research arm published a [21-page analysis of the EPA's proposed rule](#). Compared with current regulatory practices, the new rule would bring an additional 3 percent of U.S. water bodies under Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

April 7, 2014

## **FACT SHEET: Youth CareerConnect**

### *Integrating Education and Career Skills to Build America's Workforce*

Too few of America's students are meaningfully engaged in their academic experience while in high school, and many high school graduates lack exposure to learning that links their studies in

school to future college and career pathways – especially in the critically important fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). President Obama has called for a comprehensive effort to rethink the high school experience for America’s youth, challenging schools to scale up innovative models that personalize teaching and learning so that students stay on track to graduate with the knowledge and skills they’ll need to succeed in college and in careers.

President Obama has made clear that he is committed to making 2014 a year of action by taking steps – both with Congress and on his own – to expand opportunity for all Americans. As part of achieving the President’s vision to prepare all students for success in post-secondary education and in a competitive workforce, the U.S. Department of Labor, in collaboration with the Department of Education, has established Youth CareerConnect grant. This initiative encourages America’s school districts, institutions of higher education, the workforce investment system, and their partners to integrate rigorous educational standards with work experiences and skills in ways that enhance instruction and deliver real-world learning opportunities for students. Across the country, 24 Youth CareerConnect awards will provide \$107 million to local partnerships of local education agencies, workforce investment boards, institutions of higher education and employer partners as they re-design the teaching and learning experience for youth to more fully prepare them with the knowledge, skills, and industry-relevant education needed to get on the pathway to a successful career, including postsecondary education or registered apprenticeship.

Youth CareerConnect schools will strengthen America’s talent pipeline by supporting stronger high school, postsecondary, workforce investment system, and employer partnerships that deliver:

- **Robust Employer Engagement & Work-Based Learning:** Youth CareerConnect awards will provide students with the education and training that combines rigorous academic and career-focused curriculum to increase students’ employability skills. Employer partners will provide work-based learning, job-shadowing, and mentoring opportunities to ensure students’ learning is relevant.
- **A Focus on High-Demand Industries, Including STEM:** Youth CareerConnect awards will create a pathway for students to enter high-demand industries such as information technology, healthcare, and other STEM-related and manufacturing fields. Grantees will ensure recruitment and retention of underrepresented groups including girls and minorities to expand the talent pool for these high-demand occupations.
- **Integration of Post-secondary Education and Training:** Youth CareerConnect awards will enable high school students to participate in education and training that leads to credit toward a post-secondary degree or certificate and an industry recognized credential, where appropriate.

### **Recipients of Today’s CareerConnect (YCC) Grants**

Today, President Obama will visit Bladensburg High School, one of three high schools included in the Prince George’s County - Youth CareerConnect Program (PGC-YCCP) which is being awarded \$7 million. Bladensburg offers several career academies with high school curricula



aligned with college-level entrance requirements for Maryland's state university system. Through a collaborative effort with community partners, the school will expand the capacity of its Health & Biosciences Academy to better prepare more students for one of the region's highest growth industries. Students at Bladensburg who concentrate in health professions will be able to earn industry-recognized certifications in the fields of nursing and pharmacy; biomedical students will earn college credit from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and the Rochester Institute of Technology. Through the YCC grant program, students will have access to individualized career and college counseling designed to improve the attainment of industry-recognized credentials and preparation for college-level course work. Students will also have the ability to receive postsecondary credit while still in high school and will have access to paid work experiences with employer partners such as Lockheed Martin. Overall, the PGC-YCCP will help prepare 2,500 graduates at Bladensburg and other schools across the county to succeed academically and graduate career-ready in the high-demand fields of information technology and health care.

Additional Youth CareerConnect (YCC) Grant recipients include the following:

- The Los Angeles Unified School District is receiving a \$7 million grant to build out new career academies in six high schools that will focus on healthcare, biotechnology, and other technology-related industries. The program is backed by funding from the Irvine Foundation. The United Way of Greater Los Angeles, the workforce investment system, and the Chamber of Commerce will help provide work-based learning opportunities to students, including 10,000 student summer internships.
- The New York City Department of Education is receiving a nearly \$7 million grant to fund two new early college high schools similar to IBM PTECH models that offer associate's degrees while still in high school. The grant will also expand diesel mechanic registered apprenticeship to opportunity youth and create a dental hygienist apprenticeship in partnership with the Consortium for Worker Education and modify 10 career and technical education programs to offer college credit and counseling.
- Clinton, South Carolina, is receiving a \$6.8 million grant to reshape three high schools to prepare students for skilled jobs in computer science and engineering. Each school will restructure its instructional calendar to expand individual learning time, work with corporate partners to design project-based learning experiences modeled on real-world challenges, and align curricula with Piedmont Technical College and Midlands Technical College so students can earn postsecondary credits and credentials before graduating.
- The Metropolitan School District of Pike Township in Indianapolis is receiving a \$7 million grant to expand its career academies in advanced manufacturing and logistics, working in partnership with Conexus, an advanced manufacturing collaborative, and EmployIndy to provide work-based learning opportunities. The grantee will also expand STEM academies, working with the National Society of Black Engineers, Women in Technology, and the Indiana Girls Collaborative to ensure these programs are resulting in a more diverse STEM workforce.

- Jobs for the Future is receiving a \$4.9 million grant to expand and implement rigorous and engaging career pathway models that take young people from 9th grade through industry credentials and an associate's degree in high demand fields. The grant will fund pathways in three regions across Massachusetts, focusing on information technology, advanced manufacturing, and health care.
- The Denver School District is also receiving received nearly \$7 million to create and expand STEM pathways in eight schools. Students will participate in a paid internship or job shadow and complete a capstone project that demonstrates how they applied the skills and knowledge learned in the classroom to their workplace-based learning experience. Denver will also work with workforce investment partners to provide career fairs and summer industry academies.

### **Outside Commitments to Support the Youth CareerConnect Model**

- **Website for Information-sharing about CareerConnect Model Ideas:** Applicants will be invited to send their applications to a web site to share information on ideas for redesigning high schools in ways that build and strengthens a greater connection to work and careers – providing additional opportunities for outside funders to make new investments in these models and identify new partners. Hosted by the National Career Academy Coalition and College and Career Academy Support Network and created with funding from PG&E, this website will provide information on both funded and non-funded CareerConnect applications and it will allow interested parties to view applications by industry, occupation, geography, and other descriptors. Organizations committed to using the website to foster progress in redesigning high schools include the Rockefeller Foundation, IBM Foundation, Irvine Foundation, and the National Academy Foundation.
- **Commitments by the Irvine Foundation to Provide Additional Funding to California Winners:** Following up on their commitment made for the White House's College Opportunity Summit in January, the Irvine Foundation is providing additional \$1.5 million to the funded California applications from Los Angeles and the East San Gabriel Valley Regional Occupational Program. The Irvine Foundation is also willing to commit additional funding for any joint efforts among foundations to support a learning community across funded applications

**PG&E Commitment to Create Two New Energy Academies:** In addition to committing to support the website development, PG&E is creating two new energy academies, one with Arroyo Grande High School, and another with a San Francisco Bay Area school with which they are partnering this year. PG&E will also provide a six-week paid, work-based, learning opportunity for 60-100 students to prepare them for a career in the energy and utility industry. This is a step on their path to investing \$1 million in high school redesign efforts by 2016 and increasing the number of New Energy Academy programs by 50 percent, as committed to in the White House college opportunity summit.

### **Building on Progress**

President Obama has encouraged all Americans to commit at least one year to higher education or career training and has set the ambitious goal that America will have the highest proportion of

college graduates in the world by 2020. Yet today, nearly one in five students in America fails to graduate from high school on time and many of the students who graduate have not been adequately prepared to succeed in college and the workforce. Today's announcement of the Youth CareerConnect grant recognizes that many local districts and school leaders, as well as many of their national and local workforce partners, have been working together to provide these workplace relevant opportunities for students for quite some time, and it builds off of the collective experiences of these local partnerships. Further, this program complements additional proposals in the President's 2015 budget to ensure that all high school students graduate ready for college and career success and to help America once again lead the world in college attainment:

- **High School Redesign (\$150 million).** The President's budget supports a new competition at the U.S. Department of Education to support school districts and their partners as they transform high schools in innovative ways that better prepare students for college and career success. The new program will ensure that all students graduate from high school with college credit and career-related experiences or competencies, obtained through project or problem-based learning, real-world challenges, and organized internships and mentorships. Under this program, grantees would work to: (1) align academic content and instructional practices more closely with postsecondary education and careers; (2) personalize learning opportunities to support the educational needs and interests of students; (3) provide academic and wrap-around support services for those students who need them; (4) make available high-quality career and college exploration and counseling options for students after high school graduation; (5) offer multiple opportunities to earn postsecondary credit while still in high school; and (6) strategically use learning time in more meaningful ways, such as through technology, a redesigned school day or calendar, or competency-based progressions.

**Reauthorized Perkins Career and Technical Education program (\$1.1 billion).**

The President's budget also supports a reauthorized Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. The Administration blueprint for Perkins reauthorization proposal would strengthen alignment among secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and business and industry; create a better accountability system for improving academic outcomes, technical skills, and employability outcomes; and provide competitive funding to promote innovation and reform in CTE.

**Full List of CareerConnect Grant Recipients**

**Pima County**, Tucson, AZ, \$5,351,690

**East San Gabriel Valley Regional Occupational Program**, West Covina, CA \$4,499,251

**Los Angeles Unified School District**, Los Angeles, CA \$7,000,000

**School District No. 1 in the City and County of Denver**, Denver, CO \$6,999,980

**Putnam County Board of Education**, Eatonton, GA \$2,418,343

**Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission**, Postville, IA \$2,784,360

**Manufacturing Renaissance**, Chicago, IL \$2,670,909

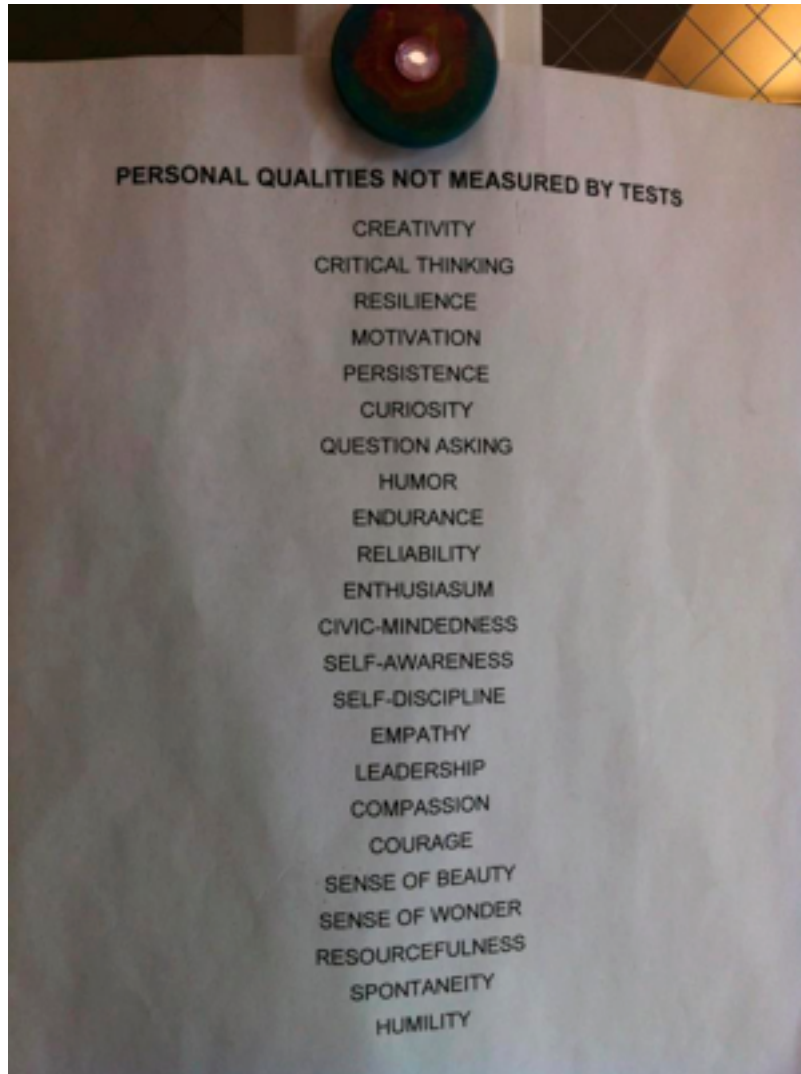


**Metropolitan School District of Pike Township**, Indianapolis, IN \$7,000,000

**Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana**, Kokomo, IN \$3,273,878

**Kentucky Educational Development Corporation**, Ashland, KY \$5,520,019

**Jobs for the Future, Inc.**, Boston, MA \$4,867,815



**Prince George's County  
Economic Development  
Corporation**, Largo, MD  
\$7,000,000

**Independent School District  
196**, Rosemount, MN  
\$2,990,026

**Independent School District  
#625**, St. Paul, MN \$3,680,658

**Anson County Schools**,  
Wadesboro, NC \$2,247,373

**Westside Community  
Schools**, Omaha, NE  
\$2,647,212

**Board of Education**, Buffalo  
NY, Buffalo, NY \$3,898,700

**New York City Department  
of Education**, New York, NY  
\$6,999,601

**Toledo Public Schools**,  
Toledo, OH \$3,824,281

**Academia de Directores  
Medicos de Puerto Rico, Inc.**,  
San Juan, PR \$2,842,834

**Laurens County School  
District 56**, Clinton, SC  
\$6,890,232

**Bradley County School  
District**, Cleveland, TN  
\$4,499,121

**Colorado City Independent  
School District**, Colorado  
City, TX \$3,482,704

**Galveston Independent  
School District**, Galveston,  
TX \$3,975,000

**GRANT NAME:**

California Summer Food Service Program

**DEADLINE:**

May 15, 2014

**AVAILABLE:**

\$29,000,000 total program funds. Sponsors receive reimbursement based on the number and types of meals served multiplied by the operational and administrative rate.

**NUMBER OF AWARDS:**

Not specified

**Link to RFP:**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r9/sfsp13rfa.asp>

**FUNDING USES:**

This California Department of Education program provides reimbursement for meals served to children who are on school vacation in areas where 50% of the children qualify for free or reduced-priced school meals. Camp sites may receive reimbursement for serving meals and nonschool agencies may be reimbursed for snacks in afterschool settings.

**GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

Institutions of higher education, local educational agencies, public and private schools, Indian tribal governments, units of local, municipal, or county governments, and other public or private nonprofit agencies.

**COST SHARE:**

Not required

U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Chester Nez receives an American flag from Pfc. Tiffany Boyd, at Code Talker Hall, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., April 4, 2014. The flag was flown over the Marine



Corps War Memorial, on the first day of spring in honor of Cpl. Nez's attendance at the Platoon 382 Hall rededication. Cpl. Nez is the last of the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers of World War II. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Kathryn K. Bynum/Released) <http://dvidshub.net/r/86h5cn>

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Meet Antonio La Cava, a retired Italian teacher who travels around the country in his "bibliomotocarro" or "librarymotorcar" to get children excited about books

Read more (in Italian) <http://www.sassilive.it/cultura-e-spettacoli/terza-pagina/maestro-del-bibliomotocarro-antonio-la-cava-ricevuto-in-regione-dallassessore-vincenzo-viti/>

