

## **Journal #3095**                      **from sdc**                      **4.21.14**

*Tribe looks to international court for justice*

*Arizona tribe set to prosecute first non-Indian under a new law*

*The Myth of Human Progress and the Collapse of Complex Societies*

**WATER DEAL STRUCK IN KLAMATH BASIN**

*Jay Begaye Sings Gathering of Nations Song*

*Controversial Episode With Harrison Ford And Don Cheadle That Will Haunt You. Make. The. Time.*

*Minnesota and Mining: Our Children, Our Waters and Wild Rice Are Political Pawns*

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*A change in justice on Indian reservations*

<http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/23191-us-tribe-looks-to-international-court-for-justice>

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### **Arizona tribe set to prosecute first non-Indian under a new law**

By Sari Horwitz      Washington Post    4.19.14

The Violence Against Women Act was expanded in 2013 to allow Native American tribes to prosecute non-Indians in cases involving domestic violence. Before that, women such as Frances Cupis were unable to press charges against violent partners in tribal court.

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### **The Myth of Human Progress and the Collapse of Complex Societies**

Chris Hedges,  
Truthdig Op-Ed:  
The most prescient  
portrait of the  
American character  
and our ultimate  
fate as a species is  
found in Herman



Melville's "Moby Dick." Melville makes our murderous obsessions, our hubris, violent impulses, moral weakness and inevitable self-destruction visible in his chronicle of a whaling voyage. He is our foremost oracle. He is to us what William Shakespeare was to Elizabethan England or Fyodor Dostoyevsky to czarist Russia. Our country is given shape in the form of the ship, the Pequod, named after the Indian tribe exterminated in 1638 by the Puritans and their Native American allies. [READ | DISCUSS | SHARE](#)

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## **WATER DEAL STRUCK IN KLAMATH BASIN CHILOQUIN, Ore. --**

Dozens of people gathered today to watch state and national leaders sign the Upper Klamath Basin-Comprehensive Agreement. The agreement introduces legislation to reduce the amount of water than can be ...

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## **[Jay Begaye Sings Gathering of Nations Song](#)**

Gathering of Nations is on everyone's mind this week as they gear up for the event on April 24th through the 26th. Over on their YouTube channel,... [www.powwows.com](http://www.powwows.com)

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## **[A Controversial Episode With Harrison Ford And Don Cheadle That Will Haunt You. Make. The. Time.](#)**

<http://www.upworthy.com/a-controversial-episode-with-harrison-ford-and-don-cheadle-that-will-haunt-you-make-the-time?c=upw1>

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## **Minnesota and Mining: Our Children, Our Waters and Wild Rice Are Political Pawns**

*C.A. Arneson, MinnPost*

Arneson writes: "Whatever happened to putting the health of the public front and center? The people of northeastern Minnesota have been corporate victims for far too long."

[READ MORE](#)

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## **Convening Culture Keepers**

Convening Culture Keepers is a series of six professional development and networking mini-conferences for tribal librarians, archivists, and museum curators serving American Indian communities in Wisconsin. Sponsored by the UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies-Continuing Education Services (SLIS-CES) and endorsed by Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc., the day-long biannual gatherings seek to provide culturally-relevant trainings and create enduring professional networks between tribal and non-tribal cultural institutions. To date, SLIS-CES and its tribal partners have hosted gatherings at Oneida Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Ojibwe Community College, and College of Menominee Nation. The mini-conferences are funded by grants from the Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment and Morgridge Center for Public Service.

For more information, contact Omar Poler at [poler@wisc.edu](mailto:poler@wisc.edu) or (608) 890-3817. Or visit the SLIS Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums (TLAM) Project website: <http://www.tlamproject.org/convening-culture-keepers/conferences/>.

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<http://tinyhousetalk.com/woman-downsized-1200-sq-ft-300-sq-ft/>

### **Biography:**

Helen Jane Wiser was born on April 16, 1854 in Springfield, Illinois , to Hiram and Delia Gray Wiser in Springfield, Illinois . Leaving Illinois, the family settled first in Iowa. There, Delia cared for her children, Helen, Rachel and Aseneth, while Hiram prospected in the Rocky Mountain for two years. The twins, Henry and Flora, were born in Iowa. Hiram moved the family west, ending up in Galt, California He purchased a large two-story house which had been dismantled in the East. The pieces were shipped around the Horn and reconstructed in Galt.

Helen attended the public schools in Sacramento County and attended Woodland College in Yolo County, California, for at least one year.

On April 6, 1873, Helen married Archibald Stewart in Stockton, California. Although Archibald was born in Dublin, Ireland, he was of Scottish descent. As early as 1868, Stewart was operating a freighting business near Pioche, Lincoln County, Nevada. In addition to hauling ore from the Pioche mines to mills in Hamilton, he operated a wood ranch, contracting for the cutting of wood and selling it locally. In 1869, Stewart gave up his other business ventures to deal in cattle.

After the wedding Archibald moved Helen to Lincoln County, settling on a ranch at Pony Springs a deserted area north of Pioche. It was here that Helen first made friends with the local Paiute women. Her first child, William James was born there. Archibald then moved them to Pioche, where he continued to deal in cattle and also ran a butcher shop. There Helen gave birth to Hiram Richard and Flora Eliza Jane (known all her life as Tiza).

In 1879, Stewart, a successful businessman, loaned \$5,000 in gold to Octavius D. Gass, taking the isolated Las Vegas Ranch as collateral. By 1881, Gass had defaulted on the loan, and Stewart foreclosed. In 1882, Archibald decided to move his family to the ranch in the Las Vegas Valley until he could sell it. Once again, the family was to live on a ranch in an isolated area.

Stewart profitably operated the ranch, selling beef, vegetables, fruit and wine to the miners to the mining camps in southern Nevada. The ranch also served as a way station for travelers. Another daughter, Evaline La Vega was born on the Las Vegas Ranch.

After Archibald was murdered at the nearby Kiel Ranch on July 13, 1884, Helen received a note from Conrad Kiel, the owner to "send a team and take Mr. Sturd away he is dead." She described her reaction in her day book (journal), "I left my little children with Mr. Frazier and went as fast as a horse could carry me. The man that killed my husband ran as I approached as I got to the corner of the house I said O where is he O where is he and the Old Man Kiel and Hank Parrish said here he is and lifting a blanket showed me the lifeless form of my husband. I knelt down beside him took his hand placed my hand upon his heart and looked upon his face."

Helen, with four small children and pregnant with her fifth child, had no choice but to learn to operate the ranch until it could be sold. Not only did she successfully operate the ranch, by 1890, she was the largest landowner in Lincoln County. What she saw was not pretty and she described in her day book the numerous wounds which had inflicted upon Archibald.

That hot, July day changed Helen J. Stewart's life forever. With no lumber available, Helen had the hired hands take the doors off the house to make a coffin. After reading the burial service from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer over her husband's grave, she stepped across the well-defined boundary between the gender roles of the nineteenth century. She realized she either had to sell the Las Vegas

Ranch or learn to operate it. From her day books it is evident that at the time of her husband's death, she knew nothing about the business or operating the ranch.

A trial was held in Pioche charging Conrad Kiel and Schyler Henry with the murder of Archibald Stewart. The third man, Hank Parrish, vanished the day of the murder and escaped. Helen was subpoenaed to testify. Helen, Kiel and Schyler were the only witnesses called. The case became the word of Helen J. Stewart against the two men. They were not indicted by the jury as there was no impartial eyewitness to the murder. This was a practice common at the time in Lincoln County.

After the trial ended, on the advice of her attorney, Helen J. Stewart applied to the Lincoln County Board of Equalization for her widow's tax exemption. They granted her an exemption of \$1,000, yet at the same meeting raised her taxes on the Las Vegas Ranch \$1,000. Archibald, a very capable business man had not been well liked in Pioche.

Helen J. Stewart remained firm in her belief that it was Parrish who instigated her husband's murder. In 1891 Hank Parrish was hanged in Ely, Nevada. Helen made a note of it in her day book, with the words underlined heavily twice.

When Archibald died, Helen was expecting her fifth child. Shortly before the birth of her child, Archibald, Jr. on January 25, 1885, Helen traveled to her parents' home in Galt, California for the birth. Her father, Hiram Wiser, took over operation of the Las Vegas Ranch during that time.

Helen J. Stewart became extremely proficient as a rancher and a business woman. Realizing that some day the land in the Las Vegas Valley would become of value, she began buying land adjacent to her ranch. By 1890, she was the largest landowner in Lincoln County, which at that time included present-day Clark County.

She was appointed the first postmaster of Las Vegas in 1893. The name was spelled "Los Vegas" until 1903. The original spelling was intended to prevent confusion with Las Vegas, New Mexico.

She often told her children to be patient and civilization would catch up with them.. She spoke of "seeing the glint of the rails, the smoke of the trains, and homes and church spires in the grain fields on the hill."

Although the ranch was operating successfully, Helen worried about her children's education. No formal school seemed evident in the near future, so she persuaded James Ross Megarrigle to tutor the three youngest children. The two oldest boys had been working the ranch for several years and refused to be tutored. Megarrigle, a twenty year resident of Lincoln County, was a well-educated man with many talents. Helen enjoyed sharing her interest in many cultural areas with this Oxford educated man. He died at the ranch and was buried next to her husband in the family cemetery plot which later gained the name, "Four Acres". She then sent her three youngest children for awhile to board in California to board so they could attend school. However, in July, 1899, Archibald Jr. was killed when he fell from a horse and was buried in the "Four Acres."

Although many rumors circulated that the valley would be bought by the railroads, it was not until 1902 that Helen sold the ranch to the Las Vegas Ranch to the San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad. She and her family went to Los Angeles to await the building of a new house. The original house, which had been part of the early Mormon settlement in 1855, was on land which now belonged to the railroad. One room of this building still stands in Las Vegas and serves as an interpretive center. Will, the oldest son stayed behind to oversee the construction of the new house.

While in Los Angeles, Helen's son, Hiram, died, leaving a wife and two children. His body was returned to the "Four Acres." In addition, that summer in Los Angeles, Helen J. Stewart married her second husband, Frank Roger Stewart. He had worked on the ranch for her since 1886. She required him to sign a prenuptial agreement, ensuring that her money and belongings would go to her children. Helen never used the name Mrs. Frank Stewart.

After Archibald's death, she used the name Helen J. Stewart and she continued to do so after marrying Frank. In lists of women in the clubs in which she participated, she was always listed as Helen J. Stewart although the other women used their husband's names.

As the new town of Las Vegas began to grow and become settled with people, Helen J. Stewart finally was able to enjoy being a part of the social, political and business life of the town, something she had sorely missed with the isolation of the ranch.

Helen remained in Las Vegas for the rest of her life, playing an active roll in the community. She helped to found Christ Episcopal Church. She was a charter member of the Mesquite Club. She suggested the name for the club noting that if the club could do as much for their community as the mesquite bush did for her Paiute friends, it would be well named.

In 1916, she was the first woman elected to the Clark County School Board. She agreed to accept the position of clerk with the stipulation that the actual clerical work would be done by the principal of the high school. When the problem was submitted to the Nevada Attorney General for a decision on the legality of the plan, his decision was favorable to her.

Helen J. Stewart served as a juror on the first trial in Clark County containing women jurors as well as being one of the first women jurors to participate in a murder trial.

Helen J. Stewart was considered an authority on the history of southern Nevada and wrote a portion of Sam Davis' The History of Nevada. With the help of her friend, Dr. Jeanne Wier, she organized a branch of the Nevada Historical Society in Las Vegas. Dr. Wier had become the founding Executive Director of the Nevada Historical Society located in Reno in 1904. Active in several women's clubs, Helen encouraged the women to record their stories and their history. In 1997 Helen J. Stewart was among the first to be inducted into the Nevada Women's History Project Roll of Honor.

Living on the isolated ranch for over twenty years, she became friends with the Paiute women in the area. They told her stories of their lives, the meaning of their work on baskets and how the baskets told the stories of their lives. Much of this she wrote in her journals. The Paiute women gave her baskets. Her collection of over 550 baskets was considered the finest in the state.

She was in the process of turning her work and the basket collection over to the State of Nevada when she died of cancer in Las Vegas on March 6, 1926. Her heirs sold the basket collection out of the state to the Hardy House railroad chain.

The day of her funeral, all businesses closed for the day. People and flowers came from all over the west to pay tribute to this brave pioneer woman.

Although she was a successful rancher, and businesswoman, her death certificate listed her occupation as historian. Perhaps the words of her friend, Delphine Squires, provide the best epitaph for Helen J. Stewart. "Her frail little body housed an indomitable will, a wonderful strength of purpose, and a courageous heart, and she faced death as she had faced the every day problems of life with sublime fortitude." In later years, Mrs. Squires gave her a well-merited title which can be claimed by no other person, "The First Lady of Las Vegas." She truly deserves that honor.

**Biographical sketch by Carrie Townley Porter**

#### **Sources of Information:**

Helen J. Stewart's numerous papers reside in the Nevada Historical Society in Las Vegas and the Special Collections Department of Lied Library at the University of Las Vegas.

For primary sources and extensive documentation please refer to "Helen J. Stewart: First Lady of Las Vegas" by Carrie Miller Townley in the Nevada Historical Society Quarterly, Volume XVI, No. 4, Winter, 1973, pp. 215-144 and Volume XVII, No. 1, Spring, 1974, pp. 3-32.

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Please continue your **global citizenship by hosting an international visitor** in your home for dinner or overnight stays or join us for lunch with two groups of women leaders from 22 different countries. Here are some of the upcoming opportunities:

**Combating Transnational Crime (Various Countries) for Dinner - April 24-29, 2014**

Five government officials from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Oman, and Pakistan will visit Reno to learn about strategies to combat transnational crime. We are looking for a dinner host on April 25, 26, 27

or 28th. Contact [cblack@unr.edu](mailto:cblack@unr.edu).

**Overnight Stay for Legislative Fellow from Kazakhstan - May 11-June 3**

We are looking for one final home host for a legislative fellow from Kazakhstan who works with the International Foundation for the Protection of Freedom of Speech. Vyacheslav works to document human rights abuses and particularly the lack of freedom of speech. He will be completing his internship at the ACLU. Contact [cblack@unr.edu](mailto:cblack@unr.edu) if you are interested in hosting him.

**Lunch at India Kebab with 23 Women from All Over – May 5, 2014**

28 women from many different countries will be visiting Reno to learn about judicial and leadership issues. We are organizing a luncheon at India Kebab and Curry at noon on Monday, May 5. The cost is \$15/person, payable at the door. There's no need to RSVP.

**Trafficking in Persons Project (Various Countries) for Dinner - May 4-7, 2014**

Five NGO managers and government officials from Argentina, Austria, the Philippines, Qatar and South Africa will visit Reno to learn more about efforts to combat trafficking of women and children. They would like to be hosted for dinner May 5 or 6th. Contact [cblack@unr.edu](mailto:cblack@unr.edu).

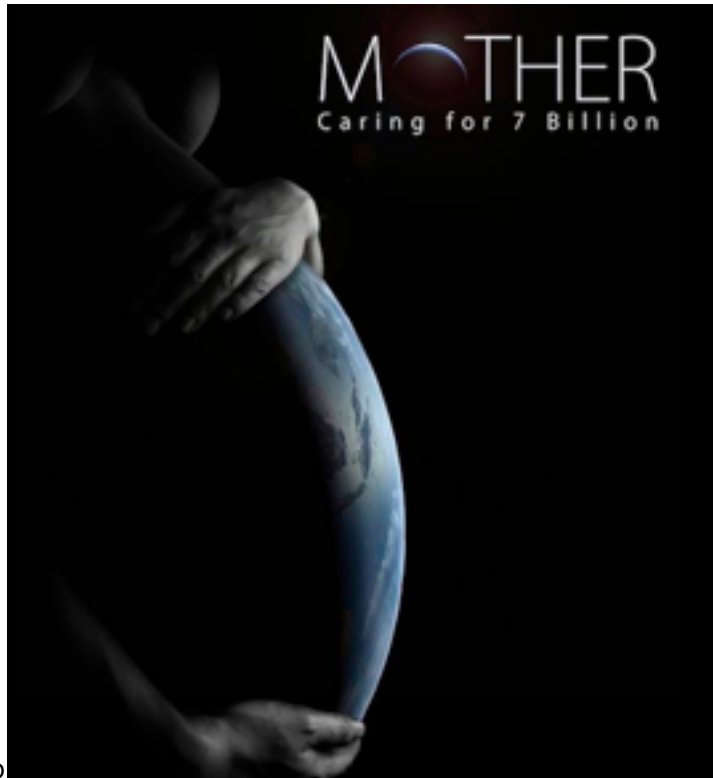
**Four FLEX High School Students for**

**Three-Month Periods in the 2014-15 School Year**

We have been asked to implement a new program funded by the US Department of State. FLEX is a year-long high school exchange for emerging leaders from Russia and the former Soviet States. We are looking for hosts for Valeria, a 16-year old from Moldova who enjoys playing the piano; for Polina, a 16-year old violin player from Russia and for Yana, a 16-year old from Ukraine, who enjoys playing basketball, biking, bowling, running and cooking. Hosts can commit to hosting for three or five-month periods throughout the school year. Contact [cblack@unr.edu](mailto:cblack@unr.edu) if you'd like to learn more about this program.

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\*Our Smudge day on April 22 is fast approaching! 2,349 people have agreed to smudge this coming Tuesday. We have invited 15,324 people. 24,520 people have seen this event page.



Please pray more people will join us for Smudge for Mother Earth this Earth Day!

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### **Ask the RGJ: Who released Nevada's public lands?**

Emerson Marcus, RGJ 4:49 p.m. PDT April 16, 2014

**Q:** The news is filled with the BLM and different land issues ... How and when did the federal government get all this land, and who in our state released this land to them? *Tom J.*

**A:** Actually, it was never Nevada land.

Instead, in its [Constitution](#), Nevada agreed to "forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within said territory ... at the sole and entire disposition of the United States."

A common misunderstanding concerning rancher [Cliven Bundy](#)'s refusal to pay grazing fees near his ranch north of Las Vegas is many believe the land once belonged to Nevada.

It's simply not true.

#### **Here's why:**

That land has remained in federal possession since 1848 following the [Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#), which ended the [Mexican-American War](#).

Before Mexico and Spain, Native Americans, primarily Paiute, lived on the land.

So how did Nevada become a state with its borders surrounding all this federal land?



In 1784, then-Virginia delegate Thomas Jefferson suggested the nation generate revenue and encourage westward expansion by selling cheap land.

This led to the creation of the Land Ordinance of 1785, funding surveys, selling land and encouraging the settlement of [township plats](#).

Two years later, the [Land Ordinance](#) of 1787, also, known as the Northwest Ordinance, addressed political aspects of westward expansion, specifically how newly-obtained territories would become states. However, these territories remained under federal government ownership until statehood.

Following the Mexican-American War, the United States obtained the Great Basin, along with a large portion of the west stretching from Texas to the Pacific Ocean. In 1861, Nevada became its own territory on the stipulation in its [enabling act](#) that it "must disclaim all rights to unappropriated public land in Nevada."

Nevada's Constitution further reflects the enabling act: "That the people inhabiting said territory do agree and declare, that they forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within said territory, and that the same shall be and remain at the sole and entire disposition of the United States."

Land already appropriated, or earlier granted from Mexico before the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, remained in private ownership.

For decades after statehood, Nevada's public lands, or public domain, sidestepped controversy, such as the [Sagebrush Rebellion movement](#) in the late-1970s.



The poster for the Haskell Commencement Powwow 2014 features a starburst graphic on the left that reads "\$5 FOR BOTH DAYS!". To the right is a circular logo depicting a Native American figure in traditional regalia. Below these elements, the text "HASKELL COMMENCEMENT POWWOW 2014" is written in a stylized font. Two photographs show participants in traditional regalia dancing on a grassy field. The dates "MAY 9TH & 10TH" are prominently displayed, followed by the location "LOCATED AT HASKELL POW-WOW GROUNDS" and the purpose "HONORING THE GRADUATES OF 2013-2014". The poster also lists activities for Friday and Saturday, including Gourd Dance, Grand Entry, and Contest Pow-wow, along with contact information for more details and a disclaimer.

**\$5 FOR BOTH DAYS!**

**HASKELL COMMENCEMENT  
POWWOW 2014**

**MAY 9TH & 10TH**

**LOCATED AT HASKELL POW-WOW GROUNDS**

**HONORING THE GRADUATES OF  
2013-2014**

**COME ENJOY, AND CELEBRATE WITH THE GRADUATES,  
ALUMNI, AND STUDENTS OF HASKELL.**

*FRIDAY: GOURD DANCE 2-5P.M. GRAND ENTRY 7P.M. NO CONTEST*

*SATURDAY: CONTEST POW-WOW GRAND ENTRY 1P.M.*

*SUPPER BREAK 5 P.M. GRAND ENTRY 7 P.M.*

*FOR MORE INFO CALL ANDREW AT (601)562-9412*

*FOR VENDERS INFO CALL JOEY AT (580)574-8806*

Disclaimer: Haskell University not responsible for any accidents, lost or stolen items or lost monies for travel



However, a growing effort to combat over-grazing and soil deterioration led Congress to pass the [Taylor Grazing Act in 1934](#). This established grazing districts and required fees for ranchers grazing cattle in the public domain based on acreage.

The Taylor Grazing Act was the origin of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management , which was created in 1946.

Congress passed several land management acts in the 1970s, including the [Endangered Species Act](#), protecting plants and animals deemed threatened by extinction. In 1976, it passed the [Federal Land Policy and Management Act](#), giving the BLM comprehensive, multi-use authority over the public lands.

In the early 1990s, the BLM designated [hundreds of thousands of acres](#) north of Las Vegas for desert tortoise conservation efforts following its designation as a threatened animal, which was supposed to end grazing in select areas.

In protest, Bundy [refused to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in grazing fees](#) over the last two decades, saying he [claims](#) the land once belonged to Nevada when his family moved there in the 1870s.

Regardless of your opinion on this heated land-management issue, Nevada has never owned that land, and heading into its [150th birthday](#) this October, the Silver State remains more than 80 percent federal land.

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[http://www.slate.com/blogs/weigel/2014/04/15/  
bundy\\_ranch\\_and\\_bureau\\_of\\_land\\_management\\_standoff\\_what\\_right\\_wingers\\_anger.html](http://www.slate.com/blogs/weigel/2014/04/15/bundy_ranch_and_bureau_of_land_management_standoff_what_right_wingers_anger.html)

### [Video: Dann Sisters' Battle to Save Their Cattle Is Stark Contrast to That of Clive Bundy](#)

Treatment of the Dann sisters by feds stands in stark contrast to that of rancher Clive Bundy on Shoshone lands.

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

### [Cory Farley: It's the time to speak to Bundy plainly](#)

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

Share This Story! Let friends in your social network know what you are reading ab... [See More](#)

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### [Shoshone Farmer, Raymond Yowell, Set to Take on the Bureau of Land Management](#)

Raymond Yowell, a retired Shoshone farmer who saw the Bureau of Land Management round up his cattle and sell them at auction, is set to face the BLM in...

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

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### ['God Hates Native Culture': Westboro Baptist to Picket Alaska Natives](#)

The Westboro Baptist Church, infamously known for its offensive protest signs which celebrate the death of soldiers, God's hate toward homosexuals and more,...

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

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### Healthy Native Communities Partnership

HNCP is looking for the right person to engage and support our partners as our Membership and Community Network Officer.

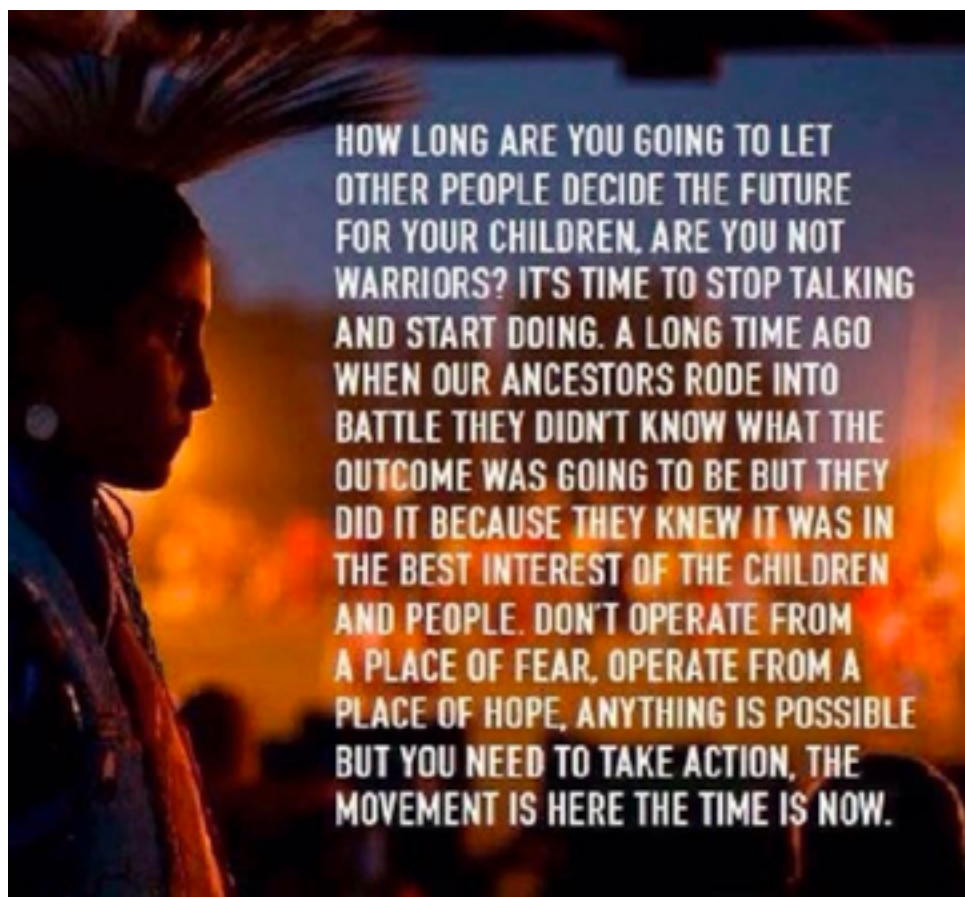
This position provides amazing support to our more than 1,500 partners across North America who are working at the local level to create a healthy future for their Native Communities and Nations.

The ideal candidate will have a Bachelors or higher degree in Community Health, Business Administration, Communications, Journalism, or Marketing; outstanding

customer service

skills, and proven experience in online community & membership marketing, team, and network management.

Salary \$40,000



Applications are accepted online at

<http://bit.ly/HNCPapplyMCNOfficer> and will close on May 9, 2014

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Here's **what happened this week at Interior**: National Park Week (April 19 - April 27) starts with free admission this weekend to all 401 of America's National Parks; a gathering of all the living Directors of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; **Secretary Jewell travels to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to give the commencement address at the Southwestern Indian**

**Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)**; the Integrated Wildland Fire Information Reporting system (IRWIN) is among the tools that will be used to fight wildfires this year; and the Interior Museum's "Posterity" exhibit looks back at the some vintage promotional art from the WPA. [Click here to watch this week's episode.](#)

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**Solar panels good deal for Moapa tribe** By John L. Smith Las Vegas Review-Journal  
Take the Valley of Fire exit off Interstate 15 north of Las Vegas, and you can't miss the sign welcoming visitors to the Moapa Tribal Travel Center. It reads, "Tax Free."

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### **A change in justice on Indian reservations**

The Pascua Yaqui is one of three tribes chosen by the Justice Department for a pilot project allowing the prosecution of non-tribal men. Washington Post

**Hopi Opportunity Youth Initiative Presents:**

# **YOUTH GATHERING**

## **ITAM LOMAPÖÖTAVYANI**

*"Working together to strengthen pathways of support  
for our future generations."*



**April 29, 2014**  
**Hopi Veterans  
Memorial Center**  
**8am-4pm**

Open to all interested individuals  
ages 14-26 yrs old

For more information contact:  
The Hopi Foundation  
Kyle Knox or Nikki Qumyintewa  
PH: (928) 734-2380 or 734-2390  
Email: [kyle.knox@hopifoundation.org](mailto:kyle.knox@hopifoundation.org)  
[nikki@hopifoundation.org](mailto:nikki@hopifoundation.org)

