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Goeff Ellis Salutes Community Scholars

Senate Indian Affairs Committee passes seven bills

Senate passes bill giving Pueblo Indians forest land



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTV9Pd6AaNk>

Education about the nexus between energy, water, history, culture, Los Angeles and the Owens Valley.

Saving Payahupuu: **The Owens Valley Solar Story** explores the land, people, history, and future of the Owens Valley as its community members work to build broad-based grassroots support at home and in Los Angeles to protect the natural, historic, and cultural resources of their valley. Saving Payahupuu focuses on the ways in which a 1200 acre industrial scale solar energy development project currently being proposed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power would cause severe and irreparable harm to Paiute cultural sites and to the integrity of the Manzanar National Historic Site located in Owens Valley.

"They have dried up our valley, now they want to bring in solar projects to cover up their damage and there's no reason to. There's enough space in LA and in different places that they don't need to come in here and ruin this area anymore. It's right across from Manzanar, an internment camp from WWII where the Japanese people that lived in LA and around the country were interned, put on reservations, hidden away. It was no good to steal all their property and take them out of their homes and put them in captivity, it stole their lives like it did to the tribes. There's over 60 sites over there with pinto points, all these other sites over there are over 6,000 years old and now they're just going to bulldoze them, grade them all out, ruin it, kill it like colonialism does. It destroyed our history and rewrites it. If they destroy it then you were never there because there's no proof of you ever being there." -Harry Williams (Bishop Paiute)

[Klamath dam removal bill introduced to Senate](#)

Will Houston, Times Standard

[Ranchers, tribes signed resolution in April to reduce water use to save endangered fish](#)

After being signed last month by a coalition of cattle ranchers and Klamath tribal members, the Upper Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement was introduced as a bill by four Oregon and California senators on Wednesday.

<http://www.filmsforaction.org/watch/how-wolves-change-rivers/>

Funding Sources

Rural Energy for America Program July 31

The Rural Energy for America Program provides grants and loan guarantees (match required) to eligible applicants for energy efficiency improvements (changing out inefficient equipment for more efficient equipment such as heat pumps, irrigation and well pumps, HVAC, insulation, roofing) and renewable energy systems (wind, solar, anaerobic digesters, geothermal, etc.). Funding is provided only for business/commercial (not for residences) uses. Eligible applicants include agricultural producers (farmers & ranchers) and rural small businesses. Section 17 corporations and those similarly structured, and certain electric cooperatives are also eligible. The Notice of Funds Availability is expected to be published soon. More at www.usda.gov

Native Land Acquisition (Indian Land Tenure Foundation) Aug. 4 (Letter of Inquiry); Grant Appl due in Sept.

Grants of up to \$100,000 to help Native tribes reacquire alienated federal lands and ensure that Indian people have, at minimum, access to the financial and natural resources within their own reservations. Applicants are encouraged to send Letters of Inquiry before submitting a complete proposal. <https://www.iltf.org/grants/special-initiatives/land-recovery-efforts>

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (USDA-RD) Open

Program helps eligible rural communities recover from or prepare for emergencies that result in a decline in capacity to provide safe, reliable drinking water for households and businesses. Federally recognized Tribal lands and colonias are also eligible. Privately owned wells are not eligible. • Up to \$150,000 for repairs to breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, & related maintenance. • Up to \$500,000 for construction of a new water source, intake &/or treatment facility or waterline extensions. For more details, visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWP-ecwag.htm>

Childhood Obesity Rapid Response Fund Open

For more info. on grant funding from the American Heart Association, visit <http://www.heart.org/idc/groups/heartpublic/@wcm/@adv/documents/downloadable/ucm446925.pdf>

Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program May 23

Federally recognized Native American Tribal Governments are eligible to apply for this U.S. Dept of Homeland Security program that supports the building, sustainment and delivery of core capabilities to enable Tribes to strengthen their capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potential terrorist attacks and other hazards. <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=252679>

Family Self Sufficiency Grant Program (HUD) May 29 Public and Indian Housing Authorities are eligible to apply. The FSS program promotes the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under the Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing programs with public & private resources to enable participating families to increase earned income &

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financial literacy, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, and make progress toward economic independence & self-sufficiency. Get up to \$69,000 per coordinator position to coordinate assistance for needy families. For more info., contact Brianna Benner Brianna.M.Benner@hud.gov. Link: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=254220>

Indian Education Formula Grants May 30

Indian Education Formula Grants [OESE]. Federal Register 1/21/2014. For more info., visit Grants.gov

Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes May 30

The FY2014 competitive announcement is listed at: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-14-04.pdf>. Also, the synopsis of the announcement has been posted on grants.gov. View the announcement at: <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=253840> For additional info, contact Denise Roy at (703)308-8458, or roy.denise@epa.gov

Second Chance Act Two-Phase Juvenile Reentry Demonstration Program: June 2

Planning & Implementation: Indian Tribal governments are eligible to apply for this U.S. Dept of Justice funding for assessments and reentry services for youths in secure confinement in order to promote reduced recidivism rates and improvements in positive youth outcomes. Link to RFP: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2014/2ndChanceDemo.pdf>

NITT-Healthy Transitions (NITT- HT) for Mental Health (DHHS) June 13

Indian and Tribal organizations are eligible to apply for these grants. "Now is the Time" Healthy Transitions: Improving Life Trajectories for Youth and Young Adults with, or at Risk for, Serious Mental Health Conditions. The purpose of this program is to improve access to treatment and support services for youth and young adults ages 16 – 25 that either have, or are at risk of developing a serious mental health condition. For more, visit http://beta.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/grants/pdf/sm-14-017_0.pdf

Cooperative Agreements for Tribal Behavioral Health June 17

2014 Tribal Behavioral Health (Short Title: Native Connections) grants. The purpose of this program is to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior and substance abuse and promote mental health among American Indian/Alaska Native young people up to and including age 24. For more, visit Cooperative Agreements for Tribal Behavioral Health.

FY 2014 HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANTS July 25

Federally-recognized tribal governments are eligible to apply. FEMA FY 2014 Pre-Disaster Mitigation and Flood Mitigation Assistance. Applicants are encouraged to review the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance for detailed information regarding eligibility and to contact their FEMA Regional Office for additional information. Grant applications must be submitted to FEMA through the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal accessible on the Internet at <https://portal.fema.gov>.

More Resources

PROGRAM HELPS LOCAL NATIVE AMERICANS FIND WORK AND FINANCIAL

INDEPENDENCE. FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. - After turning her life around and gaining work skills in

the face of adversity, Native Americans for Community Action (NACA) nominated a local Hopi woman for the Workforce Investment Act Program's Outstanding Participant award. Read more at: <http://nhonews.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubsectionID=1&ArticleID=16167>

OWEESTA | FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND ASSET-BUILDING PROGRAM SERVING NATIVE COMMUNITIES: SNAPSHOT 2014. In celebrating the close of financial education month, Oweesta released the following publication: Financial Education and Asset-Building Programs Serving Native Communities: Snapshot 2014. The results of this study are designed to help practitioners effectively meet needs in the field, to provide information on best practices that Native organizations can use in program design and implementation and to be a tool with which we can advocate on behalf of Native communities. Oweesta believes the information in this report is critical for all those serving Native American, Alaskan and Hawaiian communities and is willing to share data or segmented analysis to interested partners. Please contact Krystal Langholz, programs manager, at krystal@oweesta.org for any follow-up questions.

NATIVE AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING. Northern Arizona University (NAU) & the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) offers appliedonline professional development training courses:

Tribal Environmental Management and Planning July 7 – Aug. 31;

Tribal Water Resources Management Sept. 1 – Oct. 26.

The first two courses (and their individual modules) provide unique, tribally focused, and applied instruction to environmental professionals. A team of NAU faculty, Native American legal experts, and experienced tribal environmental professionals will guide lesson plans and offer valuable knowledge and insight into current tribal environmental policy, technical, and management issues.

A LOOK AT WATER-SAVING MEASURES ACROSS THE WEST - <http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/05/12/4112231/a-look-at-water-savingmeasures.html#storylink=cpy>

ONGOING: Native Learning Center Webinars: The Native Learning Center offers FREE courses and trainings to Native Americans and Indigenous people emphasizing the educational needs of Tribal members and their communities. Learn more at <http://nativelearningcenter.com/courses/month/>.

Native Americans: We're not your mascots

Simon Moya-Smith explains why most people can recognize what's anti-black, anti-gay, or anti-Latino -- but don't recognize racism against Native Americans. CNN|By Simon Moya-Smith (*Did y'all hear Senator Reid's rant 5.22.14?*)

Located in the heart of downtown Toronto, this year's **Grey to Green Conference** on August 25 - 26 is an excellent opportunity to learn about the **economics of green infrastructure** from over 75 leaders in our field, including these distinguished 2014 keynotes:

Also, make sure to join one of the 3 great tours:

- [Tour of Waterfront Toronto Pan Am Games Facilities & Corktown Commons](#) (Walking)
- [Green Roof and Wall Tour](#) (Walking and Public Transit)

- [Rye's Home Grown Rooftop and Community Gardens](#) (Walking)

Read more from Green Roofs for Healthy Cities:

Grey to Green Conference - August 25-26, 2014
Early Bird Deadline ends May 30th.
Save up to \$100 by signing up early!

GRPs earn up to 6.5 CE hours at the Grey to Green Conference. The Conference has been submitted to ASLA, AIA, USGBC/GBCI, and OAA for Continuing Education Units.

Keynote Speaker

Bill Browning

Founder, Terrapin Bright Green

Learn the Emerging Science, Health and Economic Benefits of Designing our Buildings with Nature.

Keynote Speaker

Craig Applegath Architect, Principal and Eco-Design Lead, DIALOG

Regeneration, Resilience and Symbiosis: Fashioning our cities to respond to a climate challenged world.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. John Howard Chair, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE)

Hear how doctors are using green infrastructure for prevention health care.

Keynote Speaker

Kathleen Wolf, PhD Research Social Scientist, University of Washington

Learn how the benefits of green infrastructure translates the economic bottom line for agencies and organizations.

Why attend Grey to Green?


Grey to Green is at the cutting edge of design and policy practice, and will showcase more than 75 leading thinkers and doers across a diverse range of fields which reveal the intersection of health and living green infrastructure.

The multi-disciplinary program is packed with fantastic project case studies, useful design and analytical tools, and cutting edge research that will help you:

- ☐ Build the business case on your next project
- ☐ Implement these systems and technologies into any home and/or any project
- ☐ Learn that latest standards, design aids, and frameworks
- ☐ Learn what exactly the economic benefits are when designing for health (You will be surprised!)

Learn and Play

Toronto has the most highrise buildings under construction in North America and will be home to 10,000 athletes, coaches and team officials as it gears up for the Toronto 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games.

Come be the first to check out the exclusive green infrastructure projects of the Toronto Pan Am/ Parpan Am games facilities  which all will meet LEED Gold certification standards. Click to learn more about the Grey to Green Tours.

Closing Reception on Toronto City Hall Green Roof Podium

A must Not Miss Event - To close out Grey to Green we're dining outside on the green roof podium at City Hall. The 36,000 feet² modular green roof is an Award of Excellence winner and is Toronto's largest publicly accessible green roof.

Early bird deadline ends May 30th. Save up to \$100 by signing up early!

video: [IMG 2537.1 hr](#) :

Donna Goodleaf as a speaker along with 10 organizations, strongly opposing the diminishing and discriminating structures of the High Level Plenary Meeting, misleadingly called to be a World Conference on Indigenous People

Thank you [Debra Harry](#) for making sure our voices were heard, and our call for cancellation of HLP/WCIP was moved forward!



New EPA Rules Would Reduce Air Pollution from Oil Refineries

Troy Wilde, Public News Service-NV

<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2014-05-19/environment/new-epa-rules-would-reduce-air-pollution-from-oil-refineries/a39447-2>

(05/19/14) CARSON CITY, Nev. - People living in the Southwest and other parts of the nation could breathe a little easier, advocates say, if new Environmental Protection Agency standards are put in place that would require oil companies to clean up the toxic pollution their refineries release into the atmosphere.

Some of the pollutants, particularly benzene, are believed to cause cancer.

Attorney Emma Cheuse with Earthjustice said the EPA is taking a step in the right direction.

"The first step to being able to protect our communities' health," she said, "is to at least know what's going into the air from all different kinds of sources that can leak and put pollution out at oil refineries."

The EPA is asking for public comments this summer, with final rules expected to be in place next spring. The newly proposed standards come after Earthjustice and the Environmental Integrity Project filed a lawsuit on behalf of groups in California, Texas and Louisiana.

Nevada has one oil refinery, in Churchill County.

The proposed rules would require companies to monitor toxic air pollution on-site as it is emitted. Cheuse said she thinks it's especially important for protecting children's health.

"As Americans, none of us wants our kids to have to face extra cancer risk just because we happen to live near an industrial plant," she said, "and EPA is taking a really important, common-sense step."

The proposal calls for improved monitoring and combustion efficiency requirements when waste gas is burned. It says flaring is a key source of air pollution in the refining process.

The proposal is online at epa.gov.

Feeling defeated? These solutions fight climate change and empower people From tree-plantings to community gardens and citizen science, there's good work being done in America's cities, and it deserves a shout-out. BY BRENTIN MOCK

College students design home with \$2 energy bills BY HOLLY RICHMOND

It's not a solar panel attached to a shoebox, either -- it's a three-bedroom, 1,925-square-foot craftsman-style house.

Young People Are Taking the Government to Court Over Its Failure to Address Climate Change |...

A group is using an ancient doctrine as a basis for some unique litigation.
Bill Moyers

•

For the first time since 2004, the Confederacy of Nations met to discuss their grave concerns about the First Nations Education Act, Bill C-33. In response, Indian Affairs Minister Valcourt called the Confederacy "Rogue" Chiefs, refusing to meet with them. This act perpetuates racism towards Indigenous peoples and justifies ongoing attacks to Indigenous self-determination and control over the education of our children. See all of the [the #IAMROGUE](http://www.idlenomore.ca/tags/killbille33) graphics <http://www.idlenomore.ca/tags/killbille33> [#IdleNoMore](http://www.idlenomore.ca/tags/killbille33)

From WCSD - Complete WCSD History of Schools

School: Natchez Elementary School

School Name History:

In 1949, the Washoe County Commissioners approved the establishment of the Natchez School. *Natchez* is the Spanish version of a Paiute word meaning *boy*. Chief Natchez was the famous *Peace Chief* of the Paiute tribe. The school became part of the Washoe County School District in 1956. The Natchez Elementary School was moved into a new building in 1972. The school is located in Wadsworth, Nevada.

Washoe County School District Board of Trustees:

Lloyd Diedrichsen H. Elizabeth Lenz

Robert McQueen|Donald Mustard|William A. O'Brien, III|Edward L. Pine|Edward C. Reed, Jr.

Superintendent of Schools at time of construction: Marvin Picollo

Opening Date: 1972 **Architect:** Vhay & Ferrari **Contractor:** Johnson-Boscovich, Inc.

Construction Cost: \$423,650 **Square Footage:** 21,451

Cornerstone Dates: 1973 (Cornerstone placed on flagpole) **First Principal:** Rudy Talso

CRUM, GEORGE

The potato chip was invented in 1853 by George Crum. Crum was a Native American/African American chef at the Moon Lake Lodge resort in Saratoga Springs, New York, USA. French fries were popular at the restaurant and one day a diner complained that the fries were too thick. Although Crum made a thinner batch, the customer was still unsatisfied. Crum finally made fries that were too thin to eat with a fork, hoping to annoy the extremely fussy customer. The customer, surprisingly enough, was happy - and potato chips were invented!

For [more information on George Crum and potato chips, click here.](#)

Federal Water Tap, May 19: EPA Recommends New Water Quality Standards for Chemical Pollutants

How much benzene should be allowed in a liter of river water? Or how about vinyl chloride? The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has a new answer for 94 federally regulated chemicals, though states and tribes will be the ultimate arbiters.

The EPA is [updating human health benchmarks for chemical concentrations in rivers, lakes, and streams](#) – benchmarks that were established as far back as the 1970s for some pollutants.

The draft guidelines are just that – a guide. In general, states and tribes set the enforceable water quality standards for waterways within their boundaries, and they must review these standards every three years. The EPA is providing updated guidelines, which have moved both up and down depending on the chemical. (This chart compares [current and proposed standards](#).)

For instance, recommended limits for one of the most widely used weed killers in the United States, called 2,4-D, will double, to 200 micrograms per liter.

The mathematical foundation for the new standards, based on contamination via water-drinking and fish-eating, has changed. For one, they assume a larger person: 80 kilograms, up from 70 kilograms. Notions about fish consumption are also different. The new standards are based on eating 22 grams per day, up from 17.5 grams.

Comments on the changes are being accepted through July 14. Send them to ow-docket@epa.gov, referencing docket number EPA-HQ-OW-2014-0135 in the subject line.

Selenium Guidelines

The EPA is also proposing [new selenium guidelines](#) that will protect fish and birds. Selenium, a byproduct of coal-burning, is toxic in large quantities to fish and to the birds that eat fish, resulting in birth deformities.

More nuanced than current benchmarks, which were set in 1999, the new guidance proposes numeric targets for fish tissues and waterways. Like the water quality standards, states and tribes are responsible for acting on the selenium advice.

The guidelines are open for public comment, after which they will be submitted for peer scientific review. Send comments by June 13 to ow-docket@epa.gov, referencing docket number EPA-HQ-OW-2004-0019 in the subject line.

Water Resources Bill

After many months, the House and Senate resolved their differences and produced [compromise legislation that funds the nation's ports and flood control systems](#).

The bill, a mission statement of sorts for the Army Corps of Engineers, takes away more than it bestows. It authorizes \$US 12 billion in new projects, while it directs the Army's chief executive to erase projects worth at least \$US 18 billion from its books. The secretary is to do this by eliminating projects authorized before 2007 that have not begun construction, then proceeding to those that have not received funds in the last six years.

Also in the 532-page bill is a pilot water infrastructure funding program called WIFIA, which is modeled after a federal transportation program. WIFIA targets water projects that cost more than projects typically funded by existing federal loan programs.

Coal Power in Navajo Land

The Bureau of Reclamation will prepare [an environmental review of the Navajo Generating Station](#) – one of the largest coal-fired power plants in the American West – and of its source mines, located on Navajo and Hopi land. The 2,250-megawatt power plant supplies nearly all the electricity to operate the Central Arizona Project, which moves Arizona's share of the Colorado River some 540 kilometers (336 miles) inland.

The environmental review will analyze the air, land, health, and water effects of extending multiple operating permits through 2044. Send comments about the scope of the study to NGSKMC-EIS@usbr.gov by July 7.

Tribal Early Childhood Education Awareness

The First Lady of Nevada, Kathleen Sandoval, is a champion for our children and participated, along with daughter Marisa in the Tribal Early Childhood Education Awareness Video produced by the Nevada... www.youtube.com

Earlier this evening I attended the 24th Annual Education Awards Ceremony hosted by WIEC, TANF and WCC. It was well attended by community members, family, dignitaries of the County

*and Tribe. Approximately 100 in attendance who enjoyed dinner provided by TANF. Amazingly there are students who are carrying 3.0 grade point averages. I was truly floored after hearing there are several 4.0 students as I acknowledge them with special recognition awards.. A phenomenal accomplishment students, family, and school staff. I'm truly honored to represent you. . **Geoff Ellis***

[Senate Indian Affairs Committee passes seven bills at meeting](#)
[www.indianz.com](#) › **[News](#)** › **[Headlines](#)**

1 day ago - The Senate Indian Affairs Committee approved seven *bills* at a business meeting this afternoon. Four *bills* were quickly approved without ...

[Senate passes bill giving Pueblo Indians forest land | TheHill](#)

[thehill.com/.../senate/200638-senate-passes-bill-giving-pueblo-in...](#)The Hill

Mar 12, 2014 - The Senate passed a *bill* Wednesday that would transfer national forest land to the Pueblo Indian tribe in New Mexico. *Sen.* Tom Udall (D-N.

[Oklahoma Senate passes Indian museum bill | News OK](#)

[newsok.com/...senate-passes-indian-museum-bill/.../3939...](#)The Oklahoman

Mar 4, 2014 - A *bill* authorizing the use of \$40 million from the state's Unclaimed Property Fund to help complete Oklahoma City's American *Indian* Cultural ...

Roses are blooming at Schurz Elementary

pic from Susan Bo

